

History of the  
GRAND LODGE OF IOWA  
A. F. & A. M.

From June, 1939, to September, 1969, recording events contained in respective volumes of the Annual Proceedings and other official sources with a section on the Grand Masters of the thirty-year period, including their portraits.



By Ralph E. Whipple, Grand Secretary

Volume Four

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1969

## HISTORY OF GRAND LODGE OF IOWA

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## FOREWORD

C. Dale Cox, P.G.M.

The first volume of the history of the Grand Lodge of Iowa was written by Brother Joseph E. Morcombe, Historian, and published in 1910 by authority of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, covering the period 1844 to 1865, and was fraternally dedicated by order of the Trustees.

Volume two was written by Brother William F. Cleveland, P.G.M., and Historian, and published in 1913, in two parts, covering the period 1865 to July, 1912, as authorized by the Grand Lodge of Iowa in 1913.

Volume three was written by Ernest R. Moore, P.G.M., covering the period from 1912 to July, 1938, and published in 1939 by authority of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa in 1965 the following resolution was proposed and presented by C. D. Jory, P.G.M., and was adopted:

At this 121st Annual Communication we are commemorating 125 years of organized Masonry in Iowa. What is now Des Moines Lodge No. 1 was issued its dispensation to work on November 20, 1840. The history of Iowa Masonry beginning with that event and earlier events leading up to it has been written for us in three volumes (four books, but volume two was in two parts), but the history they record ceases with 1938. We feel the final 25 years, or even 30 years, should now be in the making and in order to get this before the Grand Lodge for action we wish at this time to present the following resolution:

*WHEREAS, It has been the policy of the Grand Lodge of Iowa to publish its history periodically, and WHEREAS: Volumes I, II, and III of the history (in four books) cover the period only from 1844 to 1938, and*

*WHEREAS: In the past the beginning for such project has been instigated by a resolution, now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, That the incoming Grand Master*

*appoint a qualified and worthy Brother to write the history of the Grand Lodge of Iowa for the period since 1938, the expense of publishing and distribution of the same to be reflected in the appropriations as prepared by the Committee on Finance as the need arises.*

In compliance with this resolution, Grand Master Dorsey L. Andrews requested Right Worshipful Brother Ralph E. Whipple, Grand Secretary, to complete the history of the Grand Lodge of Iowa for the period July, 1938, to September, 1969, thus bringing it up to date.

The gesture in the interest of up-to-dateness is a rather symbolic one, for just as historical events and scientific concepts refuse to remain fixed, so, too, a living progressive Grand Lodge will not permit itself to be immutably pinned down. Historical authors of the past, covering the years 1844 to 1938 of history of the Grand Lodge, remarkable though they were in their days, have little more pertinence for present day readers. It was wise that the very able and qualified personality of our Grand Secretary was secured to bring the history up to date.

Brother Ralph E. Whipple joined the Grand Lodge Office Staff on February 1, 1950, as assistant to the Grand Secretary, was appointed Deputy Grand Secretary in 1953, served in that capacity until appointed Grand Secretary, May 28, 1959, and has been elected

annually to that position since that date, and has most efficiently carried on the duties of that important office of Grand Secretary and Librarian.

Brother Whipple was born in Mound City, Missouri, February 24, 1902. He graduated from Mound City High School in 1921, and after teaching for one year in an elementary school entered Missouri Wesleyan College at Cameron, Missouri, graduating from there in 1926. He was a member of the athletic teams in both high school and college. He later received the Master's Degree in school administration from the University of Missouri. After his graduation from college, Brother Whipple was teacher and athletic coach in schools in Kansas, Colorado, Missouri, and Illinois for 17 years. He then entered the field of college administration and was Registrar of Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa, at the time of his joining the Grand Lodge Staff.

On May 21, 1927, he married Miss Goldie Diven of Cameron, Missouri. They have one son, Wallace, who with his wife and two children, live in Cedar Rapids.

The Whipples are members of the St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Cedar Rapids where they have been active in church activities through the years.

Brother Whipple was initiated August 29, 1924, passed December 26, 1924, and raised to the Sublime

Degree of a Master Mason on March 3, 1925, in Mound City Lodge No. 294, Mound City, Missouri. He later affiliated successively with Hannibal Lodge No. 188, Hannibal, Missouri, Warren Lodge No. 53, Indianola, Iowa, and on September 11, 1950, with Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, serving this lodge as Worshipful Master in 1958. He received District Lecturer's Commission for proficiency in the Ritual on February 13, 1956. In the York Rite, he is a member of Trowel Chapter No. 49, R. A. M., Palestine Council No. 27, R. & S. M., and Appollo Commandery No. 26, K. T. He is a member of Cedar Rapids Consistory of the Scottish Rite and is a K.C.C.H. He also is a member of Cedar Chapter No. 184, Order of Eastern Star.



## PREFACE

The history of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A. F. & A. M., covering the years 1844 to 1938 has been written in three volumes.

At the Grand Lodge Communication of 1965 it was felt that the events of the thirty momentous years since the last history should be assembled in one volume and Clifford D. Jory, P.G.M., presented the resolution to accomplish this.

Shortly after he was installed as the new Grand Master, Brother Dorsey L. Andrews requested this Grand Secretary to bring the history up to date. An affirmative answer was given and it has been an inter-

esting and rewarding venture.

All the material is informational and is taken from records already in print in the Proceedings or some other publication such as the Grand Lodge Bulletin. So use it and enjoy it. No conclusions are drawn for you — you may draw them for yourself. Not once has there been any editorialization. Not once have the accomplishments of one administration been pitted against the success of another.

There is the story of the secretary of a board who, in reading the minutes of the preceding meeting, reported that "Mr. X had entertained his audience with a sparkling address." Whereupon, when the chairman asked for approval of the minutes, one member moved that the word "sparkling" be stricken from the minutes and commented to the secretary, "You are to report facts, not opinions." So by omitting personal opinions maybe the facts can be read without prejudice.



## Chapter I

### GRAND LODGE BUILDING

Since 1884 the Grand Lodge of Iowa has had its own building in Cedar Rapids and its location was not by accident. Beginning in 1845, Grand Secretary and Librarian, Theodore Sutton Parvin, had by 1880 gathered a Masonic Library around him that had become world famous. It had been housed in his home, in lodge quarters at Muscatine, Iowa City, and Davenport, and by now those interested began to long for a permanent, fireproof home for this peerless Masonic collection.

In 1883 a committee of the Grand Lodge was appointed to employ an architect and to invite the cities

of Des Moines, Iowa City, Cedar Rapids, Oskaloosa, Marshalltown, Dubuque, Davenport, Muscatine, Burlington, Keokuk, Mount Pleasant, and Ottumwa to make proposals to induce the Grand Lodge to build in their city. Oskaloosa submitted an offer of a lot 120 feet square and \$1,000 in cash; Marshalltown, a lot 80 by 120 feet and \$3,500 in cash; Des Moines, a lot 80 by 170 feet; Iowa City, a lot 80 by 150 feet and \$3,000 in cash; and Cedar Rapids, a lot 80 by 140 feet and \$10,000 in cash. Needless to say the Cedar Rapids offer was accepted and a building was erected on the site — the original lot being a portion of the present grounds — and it served the Grand Lodge and Iowa Masonry from 1884 to 1953 when it was razed and the present structure was occupied in 1955.

To help give our location balance, Mrs. John T. Liddle, on October 15, 1952, deeded her house and lot on the east to the Grand Lodge, thus making about 50 feet of ground to the east of the building to match about the same amount of ground on the west side.

As the Library was the impetus for the building in 1884, so it was the impetus in 1953-55. The building houses first the Library, then the Grand Lodge Offices, two museums, the Hall of Masonry, the Memorial Hall, two conference rooms, and four vaults. The basement is for work rooms and storage of books and equipment.

In 1945 Grand Master William L. Perkins recom-

mended that \$20,000 be set aside annually as a building fund. This was done and by also channeling into this building fund \$10 from each initiate, the amount in the fund approached a quarter of a million dollars by 1949. In that year the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution enabling the Grand Lodge Trustees to employ an architect and proceed with plans for the new building.

In 1950 the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution authorizing the Grand Lodge Trustees to borrow up to \$400,000 and proceed to erect the building estimated to cost \$600,000. Legislation was subsequently enacted permitting the Grand Charity Board to loan to the Grand Lodge Trustees the \$400,000 at two and one-half percent interest toward a building to cost \$600,000.

Due probably to the post-war adjustment in availability of suitable materials and labor, nothing tangible was done toward the building itself for another three years. In 1953 the Grand Lodge enacted legislation enabling the Grand Charity Board to loan to the Grand Lodge Trustees \$700,000 (in lieu of the \$400,000) at the same rate of interest, minimum annual repayment to be \$50,000 including interest. By now the estimated cost of the new structure had reached \$900,000.

Financing the new building was not entirely smooth. In both 1952 and 1953 legislation was introduced asking each member (as a part of his dues) for fifty cents

toward the building fund. It is true that it was by a close margin, but at both sessions of the Grand Lodge the proposals were rejected. In 1954 similar legislation was proposed, but this time the asking was for one dollar per member and it was adopted. Financing the new building was assured.

Bids were opened on April 14, 1953, and the following contracts were awarded:

O. F. Paulson Construction Company	
(General Contractor) .....	\$855,238
Kehrer-Wheatland Company (Mechanical) ..	83,250
Paulson Electric Company (Electrical) .....	34,355
Hamilton Manufacturing Company	
(Book Stacks) .....	38,005
Otis Elevator Company (Elevator) .....	7,188

The cost of the building was just over \$1,000,000. The cornerstone had been laid October 10, 1953, with Grand Master Charles B. Hayes presiding.

On June 13, 1955, at two o'clock, occurred the ceremony of dedicating the new Grand Lodge Building — the most important event in Iowa Masonry in this century. A huge platform had been erected immediately in front of the entrance on First Avenue where 500 chairs were provided for Grand Lodge Officers, representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions, Past Grand Lodge Officers, and the El Kahir Shrine Band. Bleachers, seating 500 persons, extended into First

## Retirement of Debt on Grand Lodge Building

Amount Borrowed from Grand Charity Permanent Fund, \$700,000.00

Year Collected	Year Reported in Proc.	Income from Dues at \$1.00	Payments on Principal	Payments on Interest	Total Payments	Balance Due on Principal
—	1955	—	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$667,500.00
1955	1956	\$ 93,970.00	83,312.50	16,687.50	100,000.00	584,187.50
1956	1957	94,073.00	80,000.00	14,604.69	94,604.69	504,187.50
1957	1958	94,132.50	82,187.50	12,604.69	94,792.19	422,000.00
1958	1959	93,363.50	84,000.00	10,550.00	94,550.00	338,000.00
1959	1960	92,423.50	84,500.00	8,450.00	92,950.00	253,500.00
1960	1961	91,684.00	83,000.00	6,337.50	89,337.50	170,500.00
1961	1962	90,463.00	88,000.00	4,262.50	92,262.50	82,500.00
1962	1963	89,588.00	82,500.00	2,062.50	84,562.50	—
			\$700,000.00	\$ 93,059.38	\$793,059.38	

GRAND LODGE BUILDING

Avenue and several thousand people stood through the ceremony.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form in the Grand Master's room of the new building at 1:30 p.m. At two o'clock the Grand Lodge Officers and others participating in the ceremony, under the direction of the Grand Marshal, assembled on the platform. As the Grand Master, Wilbur F. Earhart, stepped to the microphone, the sun shone through the clouds as though the dedication was being crowned with glory and approbation.

At the conclusion of the dedication ceremony, C. D. Jory, P.G.M., delivered the dedicatory address. The Grand Chaplain, Harry L. Cloyed, pronounced the benediction, and the Grand Lodge, after returning to the Grand Master's room, was closed in due and ancient form.

Immediately after the ceremony, open house was held and for the second time (a previous open house was held Sunday afternoon) in two days several thousand persons milled through the corridors and examined the charmingly furnished offices. Scores of bouquets had been delivered and placed, the gifts of admiring friends and business houses.

A score of girls, members of the Order of Rainbow, had been carefully briefed and given a descriptive pam-

phlet of the various aspects of the new building, and were ready as guides.

In the evening after the dedication a dedicatory banquet was held at the Armar Ballroom where over 2,100 Masons and their ladies enjoyed a delightful fellowship.

After a musical program the address of the evening was given by Thomas S. Roy, Past Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.

This Grand Lodge Building is one of the outstanding buildings of the world. It has quality construction all the way through. Two years were used in its erection — June, 1953, to June, 1955. Its frontage on First Avenue is 245 feet, 7½ inches. Along Eighth Street the west side of the building extends back to the alley, a distance of 112 feet, 11½ inches. The building is L-shaped and is approximately 50 feet wide. It is two stories high with a full basement and a three-floor library stack unit.

The lot on which the building is built is 295 feet by 140 feet. East of this lot is a beautiful 46-foot lot which was deeded to the Grand Lodge in 1952 by Mrs. Emma Liddle to be landscaped as a memorial to her and her husband, Brother John T. Liddle. This work was completed as a memorial garden. In the center of the lot is a white marble shaft suitably inscribed and surrounded by a flagstone base. The entire lot has a border

of colorful roses and other flowers with a bank of evergreens in the rear.



Iowa Masonic Library, Museum, and  
Administration Building

In construction preparation it was necessary to excavate 5,400 cubic yards of earth. There were 2,100 cubic yards of concrete used. Also used were 87,000 building tile, 280,000 common bricks, 55,000 face bricks, and two million pounds of marble. All of the white, outside marble (and there are 10,000 square feet of exposed marble surface) was prepared at the quarry in Vermont and crated and shipped to Cedar Rapids ready to be

placed in the walls. The marble, lining the foyer and corridors, was quarried and prepared at Carthage, Missouri.

There is a total of 44 offices and work rooms in the building. The east wing comprises the administrative offices and three fireproof vaults. The museum consisting of two large display rooms and adjoining offices is on two floors in the northwest corner of the building. The unit along Eighth Street is the Library unit with offices, work rooms, vaults, and four floors of book stacks. A small electrically-operated book lift is near the alley entrance. There are 19 washrooms.

There are three outside doors, 130 inside doors, and 136 double windows. About half of the window space is stained glass depicting some Masonic symbolism easily recognized by most members of the Fraternity, such as the five orders in architecture.

The building is heated by city steam. Humidifiers are located on each floor of the book stacks.

Over the First Avenue entrance is a quotation familiar to each member of the Craft: "Behold the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline with a plumbline in His hand."

On the front of the building west of the entrance is a quotation from one of Masonry's most gifted pensmen:

### The Spirit of Masonry

Gentle, gracious, and wise, its mission is to form mankind into a great redemptive brotherhood, a league of noble and free men enlisted in the radiant enterprise of working out in time, the love and will of the Eternal.

— Joseph Fort Newton

In 1956 the Grand Lodge became the proud possessor of "Victorious Peace," an exquisite painting from the talented hand of Edwin J. Bruns, an outstanding Cedar Rapids artist.

This treasure was financed by Brother Burdette C. Lackman of Monticello. It now graces the east wall of the Memorial Room.



## Chapter II

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GRAND LODGE

During the 30 years covered by this review of phases of Grand Lodge activities, seven men have served as Trustees of the Grand Lodge. This is a three-member Board, each appointed by the Grand Master for a term of six years or to serve out an unexpired term. They meet on call by the chairman, the frequency of meeting being determined by the problems with which they are confronted.

#### DUTIES AND POWERS

The duties of the Board are varied. The Trustees hold legal title to all Grand Lodge property; exercise general supervision over the same; they execute all

conveyances and make contracts as authorized by Grand Lodge or by law; they approve depositories for Grand Lodge Funds and bonds to insure the safekeeping of these Funds; they have general supervision over all arrangements for the erection or purchase of buildings and the purchase of lands to be used by subordinate lodges for lodge purposes; and they must make an annual report to the Grand Lodge.

The Trustees have the authority and power to institute and prosecute legal proceedings and to employ counsel for the prosecution of the same; to employ certified public accountants to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge; to make orders and contracts deemed necessary for the investment, protection, and preservation of Grand Lodge funds and properties; to have general supervision over all employees of the Grand Lodge; to create a Grand Lodge Building Fund and have general supervision and control over all expenditures from the Fund.

#### PERSONNEL OF THE BOARD

For the fiscal year of 1939-40, which is the beginning of this brief review, the Trustees were William A. Westfall, P.G.M., Ernest R. Moore, P.G.M., and Fred G. Hansen, P.G.M. Brother Westfall was born on March 1, 1878, and upon appointment was a member of Benevolence Lodge No. 145 at Mason City. He was

appointed to the Board by Grand Master F. W. Glaze on March 14, 1923, as a successor to Cromwell Bowen, P.G.M., who had passed away on February 2, 1923. He attended his first meeting of the Board on March 25, 1923, and continued as a member of the Board until his resignation August 1, 1955, having served over 32 years. He passed away August 1, 1965.

Brother Moore was born on November 1, 1868. He was a member of Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 and was appointed to the Board of Trustees on May 27, 1927, as the result of the resignation of W. S. Gardner, P.G.M., who later died on January 9, 1929. Brother Moore continued to serve as a Trustee until his death on March 4, 1957, after nearly 30 years of service.

Brother Hansen was born May 7, 1883. He was a member of Western Star Lodge No. 100 at Clinton and shortly after his year as Grand Master (1932-33) he was appointed to the Board by Grand Master John T. Ames upon the death of Louis Block, P.G.M., which occurred on June 3, 1935. He continued to serve until he chose to resign at Grand Lodge in September, 1961.

Brother Wilbur F. Earhart, a member of Token Lodge No. 304 at Stuart, and Grand Master in 1954-55, was born July 31, 1896. He succeeded Brother Westfall as a Board member, by appointment of Grand Master Ray R. Douglass. He assumed his duties in August, 1955.

Brother Earhart's span of service as a Trustee was all too brief. After enduring an illness of several months, he suddenly grew worse and passed away at a hospital in Guthrie Center on October 30, 1967, after only a dozen years on the Board.

Brother Millard D. Thomas, a member of Moingona Lodge No. 633, Des Moines, was given membership on the Board of Trustees by appointment of Grand Master Edwin L. Lunde on the occasion of Brother Moore's death. Brother Thomas was born August 8, 1890, and his untimely death on September 5, 1962, was a shock to all, after only a brief five and a half years as a Trustee.

Brother Ray R. Douglass was born November 10, 1894. He is a member of Brotherly Love Lodge No. 204 at Postville and became a Trustee at the start of the fiscal year on September 21, 1961, by appointment of the new Grand Master, Leslie C. Eddy, to succeed Brother Hansen.

Brother Wendell W. Bishop, who was Grand Master in 1959-60, and a member of Waveland Park Lodge No. 654, was born February 14, 1905. He received the appointment to the Board of Trustees by Grand Master Leslie C. Eddy in September, 1962, upon the death of Brother Thomas.

William W. Brubaker, P.G.M., was appointed a Trustee by Grand Master R. Kenneth Miller at once

upon the death of Brother Earhart. Brother Brubaker's membership is in Davenport Lodge No. 37. He has divided his talents among a variety of Masonic endeavors.

He was born January 29, 1907. He was graduated by the State University of Iowa Law School in 1933 and has since that time practiced law in Davenport.

The latter three are present Trustees.



### Chapter III

## LAYING OF CORNERSTONES AND DEDICATIONS OF HALLS AND TEMPLES

Masonic ceremonies are normally performed within tyled walls, but a few ceremonies such as funeral services, laying of cornerstones, and dedications of buildings have interest for the public. Lodges and Grand Lodges participate in funeral services, but only Grand Lodges can Masonically lay cornerstones and dedicate buildings. Laying of cornerstones by the Grand Lodge of Iowa is limited to acknowledged public structures, churches or schools, or buildings which are to be used

for Masonic purposes, and then only by special request of the proper authorities. The dedication of buildings by the Fraternity is chiefly confined to Masonic halls or Temples.

In the past 30 years the Grand Lodge, with the Grand Master, or his specially appointed representative, presiding, has participated in public ceremonies of laying cornerstones or dedicating halls or Temples averaging about five per year. These events follow in tabular form.

1938-39 REALFF OTTESEN, GRAND MASTER

Council Bluffs	Cornerstone of new school.
Moulton	Cornerstone of new high school.
Marengo	Cornerstone of new Temple of Marengo Lodge No. 114.
Marengo	Dedication of new Temple for Marengo Lodge No. 114.
Danville	Dedication of hall of Danville Lodge No. 48.

1939-40 H. A. BENJAMIN, GRAND MASTER

Independence	Cornerstone of Buchanan County Courthouse.
Independence	Dedication of hall of Independence Lodge No. 87.
LaPorte City	Dedication of hall of Trowel Lodge No. 216.

Dallas Center      Dedication of hall of Delta Lodge  
No. 356.

1940-41      H. L. SEARLE, GRAND MASTER

Parkersburg      Dedication of hall of Compass Lodge  
No. 239.

Lone Tree      Dedication of hall of Abner Lodge  
No. 535.

1942-43      FORD L. VAN HOESEN, GRAND MASTER

Fontanelle      Dedication of hall of Fontanelle  
Lodge No. 138.

1944-45      WILLIAM L. PERKINS, GRAND MASTER

Carlisle      Dedication of hall of Marble Lodge  
No. 368.

Bayard      Dedication of hall of Benevolent  
Lodge No. 451.

Kinross      Dedication of hall of Farmers Lodge  
No. 168.

1945-46      WILLIAM L. PERKINS, GRAND MASTER

Weldon      Dedication of hall of Jacinth Lodge  
No. 443.

Creston      Dedication of hall of Crest City  
Lodge No. 522.

Shelby      Dedication of hall of Silentia Lodge  
No. 371.

## 1946-47 FRED H. NOLTE, GRAND MASTER

- Pomeroy Dedication of hall of Solar Lodge  
No. 475.
- Garden Grove Dedication of hall of Temple Lodge  
No. 170.
- Sioux City Dedication of hall of Triangle Lodge  
No. 643.

## 1947-48 J. V. GRAY, GRAND MASTER

- Murray Dedication of hall of Surprise Lodge  
No. 396.

## 1948-49 J. GUY SWARTSLANDER, GRAND MASTER

- Dayton Dedication of hall of Oak Lodge No.  
531.
- West Des Moines Dedication of hall of Gnemeth Lodge  
No. 577.

## 1949-50 DON CARPENTER, GRAND MASTER

- Goldfield Dedication of hall of Fountain City  
Lodge No. 589.
- Des Moines Cornerstone of new State Office  
Building.

## 1950-51 GLEN G. RADCLIFFE, GRAND MASTER

- Des Moines Cornerstone of new Temple of Acan-  
thus Lodge No. 632.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Des Moines                              | Cornerstone of new Temple of East Gate Lodge No. 630.               |
| Des Moines                              | Dedication of new Temple of South Gate Lodge No. 657.               |
| 1951-52 MILLARD D. THOMAS, GRAND MASTER |   |
| Albia                                   | Cornerstone of Monroe County Hospital.                              |
| Pisgah                                  | Cornerstone of high school building.                                |
| Des Moines                              | Dedication of East Gate Lodge No. 630.                              |
| 1952-53 J. ELLITT GRAYSON, GRAND MASTER |   |
| Modale                                  | Cornerstone of new school.  |
| Monroe                                  | Dedication of hall of Fairview Lodge No. 194.                       |
| 1953-54 CHARLES B. HAYES, GRAND MASTER  |   |
| Conway                                  | Dedication of hall of Right Angle Lodge No. 348.                    |
| Cedar Rapids                            | Cornerstone of new Grand Lodge Library and Administration Building. |
| Gowrie                                  | Dedication of hall of Rose Lodge No. 506.                           |
| Mitchellville                           | Dedication of hall of Crystal Lodge No. 313.                        |
| West Union                              | Cornerstone of Heiserman Memorial Library.                          |

Des Moines            Cornerstone of Temple of Auburn  
Lodge No. 592.

1954-55    **WILBUR F. EARHART, GRAND MASTER**

Des Moines            Dedication of hall of Auburn Lodge  
No. 592.

Wheatland            Dedication of hall of Zeredatha  
Lodge No. 184.

Abingdon             Dedication of hall of Abingdon  
Lodge No. 104.

Silver City            Dedication of hall of Silver Light  
Lodge No. 400.

Jolley                 Dedication of hall of Maple Lodge  
No. 566.

Cedar Rapids         Dedication of new Grand Lodge Li-  
brary and Administration Building.

1955-56    **RAY R. DOUGLASS, GRAND MASTER**

Fayette                Cornerstone of Zinita B. Graf Hall of  
Upper Iowa University.

Osceola                Cornerstone of new school building.

Marcus                Dedication of hall of Seba Lodge No.  
463.

Ankeny                Dedication of hall of Logic Lodge  
No. 636.

Corning                Dedication of hall of Instruction  
Lodge No. 275.

Center Point         Dedication of hall of Vienna Lodge  
No. 142.

- Monona Cornerstone of new addition to school building.
- Osceola Cornerstone of new Clarke County Courthouse.
- 1956-57 EDWIN L. LUNDE, GRAND MASTER
- Vail Dedication of hall of Diamond Lodge No. 422.
- Ocheyedan Dedication of hall of Silver Cord Lodge No. 525.
- Pleasantville Dedication of hall of Pleasant Lodge No. 128.
- Perry Cornerstone of Rowley Memorial Masonic Home.
- Greenfield Cornerstone of elementary school.
- 1957-58 GLEEN A. FOSTER, GRAND MASTER
- Des Moines Dedication of hall of Waveland Park Lodge No. 654.
- Ottumwa Dedication of hall of Empire Lodge No. 269.
- Traer Dedication of hall of Hesperia Lodge No. 340.
- Perry Dedication of Rowley Memorial Masonic Home.
- 1958-59 C. DALE COX, GRAND MASTER
- Ogden Dedication of hall of Rhodes Lodge No. 303.

Moorhead Dedication of hall of Elk Lodge No. 586.

Kirkville Dedication of hall of Formal Lodge No. 442.

1959-60 WENDELL W. BISHOP, GRAND MASTER

Buffalo Center Dedication of hall of Nain Lodge No. 570.

Spirit Lake Dedication of hall of Twilight Lodge No. 329.

Neola Dedication of hall of Agate Lodge No. 423.

1960-61 EARL B. DELZELL, GRAND MASTER

Keosauqua Cornerstone of new Post Office.

Stockport Dedication of hall of Workman Lodge No. 634.

Preston Dedication of hall of Astral Lodge No. 324.

McGregor Dedication of hall of Bezer Lodge No. 135.

Council Bluffs Cornerstone of new Temple.

Osceola Cornerstone of Clarke Community School Building.

Clinton Cornerstone of new Scottish Rite Temple.

Fort Dodge Cornerstone of new Post Office and Federal Building.

## 1961-62 LESLIE C. EDDY, GRAND MASTER

- Denison Cornerstone of new elementary school.
- Council Bluffs Dedication of new Temple.
- Onslow Dedication of hall of Fraternity Lodge No. 619.
- Armstrong Dedication of hall of Emmet Lodge No. 533.
- Osceola Cornerstone of new Temple.
- Lewis Cornerstone of new elementary school.
- Sibley Cornerstone of new Temple.
- Sibley Dedication of Temple of Broken Column Lodge No. 331.
- Lake View Dedication of Temple of Laurel Lodge No. 517.
- Neola Cornerstone of new high school building.
- Gilman Cornerstone of hall of Cyrus Lodge No. 338.

## 1962-63 RALPH C. BROWN, GRAND MASTER

- LeClaire Cornerstone of new Temple of Snow Lodge No. 44.
- Gilman Dedication of hall of Cyrus Lodge No. 338.

Osceola	Dedication of hall of Osceola Lodge No. 77.
Sigourney	Cornerstone of new Temple of Webb Lodge No. 182.
Maquoketa	Dedication of hall of Helion Lodge No. 36.
Lisbon	Dedication of hall of Benjamin Franklin Lodge No. 574.
Irwin	Dedication of hall of Sardius Lodge No. 444.
Correctionville	Cornerstone of new Temple of Burning Bush Lodge No. 474.
Correctionville	Dedication of hall of Burning Bush Lodge No. 474.
Moville	Cornerstone of hall of Trial Lodge No. 532.
Moville	Dedication of hall of Trial Lodge No. 532.
LeClaire	Dedication of hall of Snow Lodge No. 44.
1963-64	GLENN P. WILSON, GRAND MASTER
Altoona	Dedication of hall of King David Lodge No. 407.
Arthur	Dedication of hall of Ben Hur Lodge No. 611.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Webb           | Dedication of hall of Perfection Lodge No. 651.          |
| Sigourney      | Dedication of hall of Webb Lodge No. 182.                |
| Sioux City     | Dedication of hall of North Riverside Lodge No. 662.     |
| Des Moines     | Cornerstone of hall of West Gate Lodge No. 661.          |
| Des Moines     | Dedication of hall of West Gate Lodge No. 661.           |
| Kellerton      | Dedication of hall of Topaz Lodge No. 438.               |
| Guthrie Center | Cornerstone of new Guthrie County Courthouse.            |
| Runnells       | Cornerstone of hall of Faithful Lodge No. 448.           |
| Corydon        | Cornerstone of Wayne County Historical Society Building. |
| Corydon        | Cornerstone of Wayne County Courthouse.                  |
| Mason City     | Cornerstone of new Masonic Temple.                       |
| 1964-65        | HOYT WOODY, GRAND MASTER                                 |
| Woodward       | Dedication of hall of Peaceful Lodge No. 454.            |
| Bonaparte      | Dedication of hall of Bonaparte Lodge No. 73.            |

- Runnells Dedication of hall of Faithful Lodge  
 No. 448.
- Mason City Dedication of new Temple.
- Mount Ayr Dedication of hall of Faith Lodge  
 No. 179.
- West Union Cornerstone of new Temple of West  
 Union Lodge No. 69.
- West Union Dedication of new Temple.
- Conrad Cornerstone of new Temple of Ro-  
 man Lodge No. 564.
- 1965-66 **DORSEY L. ANDREWS, GRAND MASTER**
- Fort Dodge Dedication of new facilities and Tem-  
 ple of Ashlar Lodge No. 111
- Hampton Dedication of Temple of Anchor  
 Lodge No. 191.
- Peterson Dedication of hall of Welcome Lodge  
 No. 536.
- Conrad Dedication of Temple of Roman  
 Lodge No. 564.
- 1966-67 **WILLIAM W. BRUBAKER, GRAND MASTER**
- Tipton Cornerstone of new Cedar County  
 Courthouse.
- What Cheer Cornerstone of new Temple of Uni-  
 verse Lodge No. 242.
- Hampton Cornerstone of hall of Anchor Lodge  
 No. 191.

Rock Valley	Dedication of hall of Golden Sheaf Lodge No. 605.
Prairie City	Cornerstone of new Temple of Preston Lodge No. 218.
Pocahontas	Cornerstone of new Temple of Mishna Lodge No. 565.
Pocahontas	Dedication of new Temple of Mishna Lodge No. 565.
West Branch	Cornerstone of new Methodist Church.
What Cheer	Dedication of new Temple of Universe Lodge No. 242.
Bettendorf	Cornerstone of new Temple of Hamilton Lodge No. 664.
1967-68 R. KENNETH MILLER, GRAND MASTER	
Brighton	Dedication of new Temple of Naaman Lodge No. 613.
Prairie City	Dedication of new Temple of Preston Lodge No. 218.
Malvern	Cornerstone of new high school.
Bettendorf	Dedication of new Temple of Hamilton Lodge No. 664.
Belmond	Cornerstone of new Temple of King Solomon Lodge No. 210.
Belmond	Dedication of new Temple of King Solomon Lodge No. 210.

- Perry Dedication of addition to Rowley Memorial Masonic Home.
- Cedar Falls Dedication of new facilities of Black Hawk Lodge No. 65.
- 1968-69 EDWIN A. HAMILTON, GRAND MASTER
- Sioux City Dedication of new Temple of Triangle Lodge No. 643.
- Creston Dedication of addition and remodeling of Temple of Crest City Lodge No. 522.
- Perry Cornerstone laying of new Temple of Otley Lodge No. 299.
- Perry Dedication of new Temple of Otley Lodge No. 299.
- Pleasantville Cornerstone laying of new Temple of Pleasant Lodge No. 128.
- Pleasantville Dedication of new Temple of Pleasant Lodge No. 128.
- Tabor Cornerstone laying of new school.
- Vinton Cornerstone laying of Temple of Vinton Lodge No. 62.
- Rock Rapids Dedication of new Temple of Border Lodge No. 406.
- Decorah Cornerstone laying of new Eastern Star Home.
- Denison Cornerstone laying of new school.



## Chapter IV

### SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS

A project, unique in the record of Iowa Masonry, began in 1932. It was the year to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of our illustrious hero and Masonic brother, George Washington, and suggestions for such an event had been supplied by authorities at Washington, D. C.

Anxious that Iowa Masons be found among the loyal, and ready to contribute wholeheartedly to the project, Grand Master Charles S. Percival on October 30, 1931, issued a proclamation asking that all Iowa lodges as-

semble in tyled meetings in their halls or jointly with other lodges on February 11, 1932, to honor the memory of the Illustrious Washington. The date, of course, is the original date of his birth from which it was changed to February 22 by the change in the calendar, made in 1752. The simultaneous meetings were a success with the Service Committee (now Education Committee) fully cooperating and 145 groups reported as participating.

Grand Master Fred G. Hansen asked for a similar gathering in 1933 and, by proclamation of December 15, 1932, set the date of February 27, 1933. Again with the aid of the Service Committee there were 200 lodges assembled in tyled meetings emphasizing Re-obligation and Re-consecration to Freemasonry and pin-pointed by the slogan "Every Iowa Mason in lodge at the same hour."

In 1934 simultaneous meetings were continued by Grand Master Lars A. Larson. His proclamation asked for the meetings to be held on February 27, 1934, and the theme to be used was "The Five Points of Fellowship." There were 220 meetings held.

The fourth such meeting was held on March 11, 1934, at the request of Grand Master Burton H. Saxton. The keynote was "Meet Me At the Altar," centering on the Three Great Lights of Masonry with special emphasis on citizenship. A total of 375 lodges partici-

pated with a total attendance of 14,000.

Grand Master John T. Ames continued the meetings and set the date as March 16, 1936, or a date later in that week. The subject for discussion was "Work and the Working Tools," and the use of local talent was to be encouraged. The central idea was re-obligation and the theme was "Called to Labor."

There were 315 meetings held with 12,000 members present.

#### A WIDENED HORIZON

In 1937 Grand Master Tom B. Throckmorton continued the simultaneous meetings and requested the brethren to use the date of April 27. He, himself, highlighted the evening by being in attendance at a meeting in Des Moines in the Masonic Temple at Tenth and Locust Streets and making a radio address over Station WHO. The subject of his address was "The Twelfth Chapter of Ecclesiastes" from a medical viewpoint. Believe it or not, after over 30 years the Grand Lodge Office is still receiving requests for copies of this interesting presentation.

Grand Master Harry A. Palmer asked for tyled meetings on April 12, 1938. As a part of a national observance they centered on the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. Over 12,000 members participated in 330 meetings.

On April 4, 1939, Grand Master Realff Ottesen held simultaneous meetings and 420 lodges participated. Brother Ottesen, himself, was present in a meeting in the Consistory Temple in Des Moines and again the facilities of Radio Station WHO were used to carry his address, "Declaration of Masonic Principles." The general theme for the meetings was "The Three Charges."

For the participating meetings proclaimed by Grand Master Homer A. Benjamin on February 12, 1940, the theme was "Masonry's Three-Fold Obligation — To Duty, To Nation, and To Humanity." The planning was geared to commemorate the birth of Abraham Lincoln. Participating were 443 lodges and attendance numbered over 11,000.

For the simultaneous meetings in 1941, Grand Master Harry L. Searle proclaimed the date as April 14. The plan was a re-dedication ceremony and a paper, "Vouchsafe Thine Aid," written by Brother Henry S. Nollen, of the Service Committee, was read in each meeting. Over 10,000 attended the 393 meetings.

On March 23, 1942, the subject for the meetings, announced by Grand Master Earl Peters, was "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity." There were 435 meetings participated in by 484 lodges, with an attendance of over 12,000.

Grand Master Ford L. Van Hoesen set the date for the simultaneous meetings in the fall of his fiscal year,

the date being October 19, 1942. The theme was "How Goes the Hour?" There were 416 lodges involved in 390 meetings with over 9,000 in attendance.

The Grand Lodge Centennial Year was in 1944 and Grand Master C. D. Jory delivered a radio address from the Temple in Cedar Rapids as a part of simultaneous meetings on April 20, 1944. There were 328 meetings involving 359 lodges with a total attendance of 8,460.

No doubt due to restrictions resulting from the war, no simultaneous meetings were attempted by Grand Master William L. Perkins who served during the years of 1944-45 and 1945-46. There was no Grand Lodge Communication in 1945.

#### END OF THE PROJECT

In 1946-47 Grand Master Fred H. Nolte revived the simultaneous meetings project and on February 25, 1947, proclaimed that all Iowa lodges be opened on March 31, 1947, and participate in a Re-Obligation Ceremony. The plan was well received and 400 lodges participated in 389 meetings with over 14,000 members present.

This was the last of the simultaneous meetings project and it disappeared from the planning of future Grand Masters without recorded farewell, reason, or apology.



## Chapter V

### ACTIVITIES FOR WORLD WAR II

In 1941 Grand Master Harry L. Searle, in his report, made the following recommendation, "We are again confronted with the question of Masonic service looking to the comfort and well-being of those of our members who have been, or will be, called to the military service of our country. . . . I therefore recommend that *the Grand Master appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to consider this subject from every angle, to develop all facts, to be empowered to commit this Grand Jurisdiction to whatever plan of*

*procedure the committee, in its best judgment, deems the circumstances to justify."*

The next day C. C. Clark, P.G.M., presented a resolution which was adopted by the Grand Lodge. It provided for a committee to be known as the Committee on Military and Naval Masonic Activity to serve during the present national emergency or until dissolved by action of this Grand Lodge. The committee was to be composed of five members including the Grand Master, the committee to give diligent study to the program of Masonic welfare work being conducted by the Masonic Service Association of the United States, make financial contributions for such work, and shall be authorized to carry out such other efforts for the men in the military and naval services as they shall determine wise and proper.

Funds were to be provided by lodges and members by voluntary contributions to a special fund. The goal was twenty-five cents per member each year.

The first committee was composed of Homer A. Benjamin, P.G.M., Chairman, of Des Moines; G. W. Brown, Shenandoah; Clifford D. Jory, P.S.G.W., Sheldon; L. W. Lovell, P.G.T., Monticello; and Earl Peters, Grand Master.

The 1942 Proceedings reports that the committee met and organized in July, 1941.

The committee found:

1. A need for welfare work.
2. The need is being cared for as the U.S.O. is active outside the camps and recreational facilities are being handled in the camps.
3. The Masonic Service Association duplicates the work of the U.S.O.
4. Less than one percent of Iowa's members are in the service which does not pose a real Masonic problem.
5. A very small number of Masons visit the Masonic Service Center at Rolla which makes it an expensive project.
6. Competition with the U.S.O. is to be discouraged.
7. No unified program.

The committee felt there was a need for Masonry in the war picture and recommended a program as follows:

1. A letter from the Grand Master asking for contributions from lodge funds or from individuals to be sent by the lodge to the Grand Secretary and deposited by him in the Grand Master's Emergency Fund.
2. Secretaries were to report to the Grand Secretary name, rank, and address of members in service. These were to be brought up to date every sixty days.

3. The Grand Secretary to report to the Grand Jurisdiction the names and lodges of members of Iowa serving in other states and request Masonic courtesies.
4. The subordinate lodge to carry on home service between men in service and homes and recommend to the Grand Master extension of such emergent service not covered by the Grand Charity Board.
5. Financially assist other Grand Lodges with their programs when needed.
6. In any camps in Iowa the committee is to assist lodges involved with their programs.
7. Letter from the Grand Master to each Iowa Mason in service urging him to keep up Masonic connections.
8. Expenditures for the program to be made by the committee with approval of the Grand Master.

The report further states that the items in the program were being implemented and correspondence was passing between the Grand Master and brethren in the service and that contributions were being received. Lodges and Grand Lodges were becoming involved in the liaison program throughout the world.

By resolution adopted, the committee is to co-operate with the Masonic Service Association, but urged

conflicting efforts with the U.S.O. program be abandoned.

Early figures reported in 1942 showed receipts of \$3,280.42 from lodges and expenses of \$421.65.

Concentrations of service personnel were at our bases at Sioux City and Ottumwa, preflight schools at Iowa City and Ames, and other units at Drake, Cornell, Coe, Grinnell, State College at Cedar Falls, Morningside, and Fort Des Moines and Camp Dodge.

In 1943 the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution:

1. That the quota of each Iowa lodge for the work of this committee for the coming year be placed at 25 cents per member for each dues-paying member as of January 1, 1943.

2. That if the quota is placed at 25 cents per member, 40 percent of the amount so received, including the money heretofore received, be sent to the Masonic Service Association for the carrying on of their work; 40 percent be set aside in a fund for the rehabilitation of our own members and to assist in the re-establishment of Masonry in war-torn Europe after hostilities cease; and 20 percent to be used for the carrying on of our own current program in Iowa.

During its lifetime the committee had been given four projects: one, to aid in the program of the Masonic Service Association; two, the rehabilitation of

Iowa Masons and those in war-torn Europe; three, preparation of a roster; and four, providing a program for a memorial.

On page 355 of the 1946 Proceedings the Grand Lodge is shown having adopted a resolution which in part said: "The committee shall endeavor to make a roster of all Iowa Masons who served in the Military or Naval Forces of the United States during World War II. Such roster shall include the name, service, and rank of such Masons.

"The committee shall provide a program for the construction of a memorial to Iowa Masons who have served in the armed forces of the United States, the memorial to be a part of and built in connection with any additions to or alterations of our present Masonic Building in Cedar Rapids."

The program essentially ended in 1948, the committee, by resolution of the Grand Lodge, having been discharged. Into its hands had come over \$85,000. Demands on the committee for funds were not excessive and they were able to invest for memorial fund usage \$42,180. Significant amounts disbursed were \$24,000 to the Masonic Service Association and \$12,000 for aid in Iowa.

The roster became three books of names of Iowa Masons serving in the armed forces, now on display in the Memorial Hall and the memorial fund was trans-

lated into the Memorial Hall, a room in the Grand Lodge Building erected 1953-55.

We quote from the Proceedings of 1948, page 88, a part of the final report of the committee:

The work of your committee has been supported entirely by voluntary contribution from the subordinate lodges. The request for this contribution each year has been on the basis of 25 cents per member. Of the 545 lodges in the state of Iowa we are happy to report that only 13 have failed to make any contribution whatsoever to this program. There were 304 subordinate lodges which contributed their quota 100 percent, and the remaining 228 lodges have paid at least a portion of the contributions requested from them. We appreciate that in some instances this 25 cents per member has been a burden on the members of the subordinate lodges, and we feel that it is an outstanding tribute to the spirit of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction that our lodges have responded in the manner that they have. Our total collection during the life of this committee, up to June 1 of this year, amounts to \$85,057.79.

#### SPECIAL WAR FUND

Over a period of ten years, 1942-1952, the Grand Lodge maintained a fund from which to make contributions toward alleviating distress caused by conditions of war. Most of the lodges were loyal to the need and the following chart gives the story year by year:

Date	Balance	INCOME		DISBURSEMENTS	
		Contributions	Purpose	Amount	Balance
1942-43	\$ 2,883.77	\$10,293.12	—	\$ 6,843.63	\$ 6,333.26
1943-44	6,333.26	17,020.21	M. S. A. Welfare Miscellaneous	7,069.92 600.00 273.59	15,409.96
1944-45	15,409.96	11,829.39	M. S. A. Sojourners, Tucson Coe College Miscellaneous	4,865.36 250.00 400.00 2,178.28	19,545.71
1945-46	19,545.71	14,843.78	—	9,355.12	25,034.37
1946-47	25,034.37	14,992.46	European Relief M. S. A. Hospital Program Miscellaneous Bonds	5,000.00 1,028.75 268.49 25,900.00	7,829.59

Date	Balance	INCOME		DISBURSEMENTS		Balance	
		Contributions	Purpose	Amount	Balance		
1947-48	7,829.59	13,322.66	—	19,918.68	1,233.51	*42,180.00	
1948-49	1,233.57	65.75	—	109.00	1,190.32	*42,180.00	
1949-50	1,290.32	14.25	—	—	1,204.57	*42,180.00	
1950-51	1,204.57	—	—	—	1,204.57	*42,180.00	
1951-52	1,204.57	—	—	—	1,204.57	*42,180.00	
1952-53	1,204.57	—	—	—	1,204.57	*42,180.00	
1953-54	Transferred to Building Fund.					*Bonds	

ACTIVITIES FOR WORLD WAR II

Contributions as Shown in the Proceedings  
for the Years 1942 to 1954, Inclusive

Year	Balance	Received	Disbursed	Balance
1941-42	\$ —	\$ 3,280.42	\$ 396.65	\$ 2,883.77
1942-43	2,883.77	10,293.12	6,843.63	6,333.26
1943-44	6,333.26	17,020.21	7,943.51	15,409.96
1944-45	15,409.96	11,829.39	7,693.64	19,545.71
1945-46	19,545.71	14,843.78	9,355.12	25,034.37
1946-47	25,034.37	14,992.46	32,197.24	7,829.59
1947-48	7,829.59	13,322.66	19,918.68	1,233.57
1948-49	1,233.57	65.75	109.00	1,190.32
1949-50	1,190.32	14.25	—	1,204.57
1950-51	1,204.57	—	—	1,204.57
1951-52	1,204.57	—	—	1,204.57
1952-53	1,204.57	—	—	1,204.57
1953-54	1,204.57	12.75	1,217.32*	—
		\$85,674.79		

\*To Grand Lodge Building Fund.



## Chapter VI

### THE IOWA RITUAL

The Board of Custodians is charged with the demanding task of leading the way to dissemination of the Ritual in its purest form to any Iowa brother who is interested in learning it or using it.

In the 30-year period covered by this brief history a total of seven brothers have served on this board composed of three members. For the fiscal year of 1938-39 the Board consisted of John T. Ames, Charles C. Clark, and Thomas W. Wellington, all Past Grand Masters. Brother Ames was elected to the Board on June 9, 1920, and served until September 18, 1967, when he

resigned. Laverne R. Clary, P.J.G.W., was appointed to the Board and two days later was elected to fill the unexpired term.

Brother Clark was a dynamic figure in the Grand Lodge for over half a century, having served on the Board of Custodians for 53 years. Because of his early interest in the Ritual he was courteously and reverently credited with being the father of Iowa's system of preserving and disseminating the Ritual. At Grand Lodge in 1897 it was he who introduced a resolution calling for a committee to be appointed to bring to the next Communication recommendations on how best to teach the Ritual in Iowa. He was appointed chairman of the committee and at the 1898 Communication his committee report resulted in the adoption of our District Lecturer system. At that same session of the Grand Lodge he was elected to the Board of Custodians and his term of service was continuous until his death on January 22, 1951 — 53 years.

Upon the death of Brother Clark the remaining Custodians on January 29, 1951, selected J. Guy Swartzlander, P.G.M., to fill the vacancy and he was regularly elected to the Board the following June. He served with distinction and popularity until he chose to retire from the Board on March 20, 1965. He was accorded Emeritus status by the Grand Lodge.

The remainder of the Board at once chose Leslie C.

Eddy, P.G.M., of Anita, to fill the vacancy and at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge the following September he was regularly elected.

Brother Thomas W. Wellington, P.G.M., became a member of the Board of Custodians on April 24, 1935, and continued until he chose to retire from the strenuous work on November 20, 1952. He passed away July 28, 1955.

The Board selected Glenn A. Foster on November 28, 1952, to succeed Brother Wellington and the following June he was regularly elected. His period of service as a member of the Board was of comparatively short duration as he was called to the celestial lodge above on August 16, 1961. To succeed him the remaining members selected Brother Hoyt Woody at once and he was duly elected the next month by the Grand Lodge. Both Brothers Foster and Woody served as Grand Masters while they were members of the Board in 1957-58 and 1964-65, respectively.

The Board is now composed of Hoyt Woody, P.G.M., Leslie C. Eddy, P.G.M., and Laverne R. Clary, P.J.G.W.

In 1928 the Board of Custodians adopted a plan of selecting Masonic Instructors and District Lecturers which is in use today. Any brother who has memorized the entire Ritual of the three degrees may go before a member of the Board of Custodians (or before some District Lecturer designated by the Board) and repeat

the Ritual. If the examiner is satisfied (subject to a final check by the Custodians) the brother is given a Masonic Instructor's Certificate. At the end of three years, during which time he must master the floor work, he is again checked for accuracy and again, if the Custodians are satisfied, he is commissioned a District Lecturer. This he retains as long as he remains active and accurate.

Over the last 30 years an average of 49 new Masonic Instructors are added by examination each year. A comparable number are commissioned District Lecturers each year and the latter group is held somewhat static by deaths and other causes. But over the same period the average number of proficient members (District Lecturers and Masonic Instructors) available to teach the Ritual and conduct schools of instruction has been over 1,200 each year. Over this period an average of 362 lodges had at least one proficient member each year and an average of 184 lodges each year had no members proficient.

Schools of Ritualistic Instruction are quite popular and well-attended by interested, loyal, and devoted brethren, some often driving a hundred miles or more to reach the school. The table below shows information on the number of schools held:

Year	Re- gional	Dis- trict	Repre- senta- tive	Private and Special	Group	Grand Lodge	Total
1939	5	26	40	9	480	1	561
1940	5	30	110	11	446	1	603
1941	5	28	117	6	596	1	753
1942	5	25	127	6	426	1	590
1943	5	24	20	2	254	1	306
1944	5	38	5	5	142	1	196
1945	5	44	5	11	191	1	257
1946	10	40	64	6	269	1	390
1947	6	34	85	5	273	1	404
1948	6	43	81	5	448	1	584
1949	5	28	110	10	453	1	607
1950	5	32	127	4	464	1	636
1951	5	38	119	4	497	1	664
1952	6	44	101	10	489	1	651
1953	4	42	131	8	488	1	674
1954	6	41	100	8	460	1	616
1955	5	46	103	11	498	1	664
1956	5	28	140	11	624	1	809
1957	5	21	135	11	557	1	730
1958	5	26	126	7	560	1	725
1959	6	27	130	11	579	1	754
1960	6	30	126	5	603	1	771
1961	15	7	132	8	590	1	753
1962	15	7	167	6	510	1	706
1963	15	4	118	2	567	1	707
1964	15	3	115	7	620	1	761
1965	15	2	123	3	503	1	647
1966	15	5	124	3	527	1	675
1967	15	1	123	4	366	1	510
1968	15	2	118	4	488	1	628



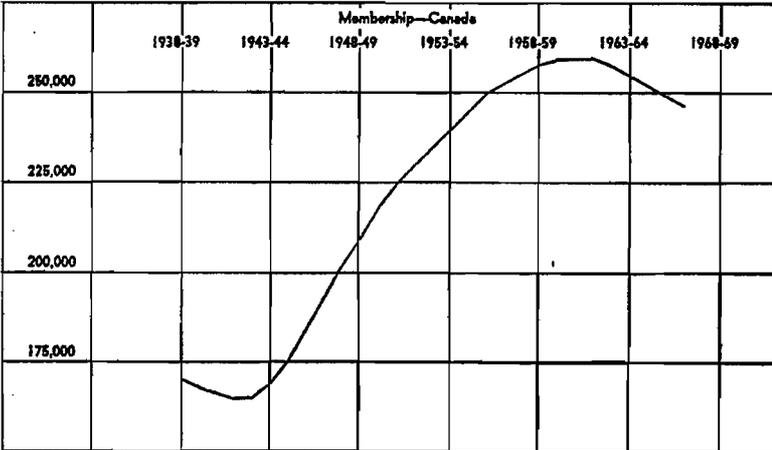
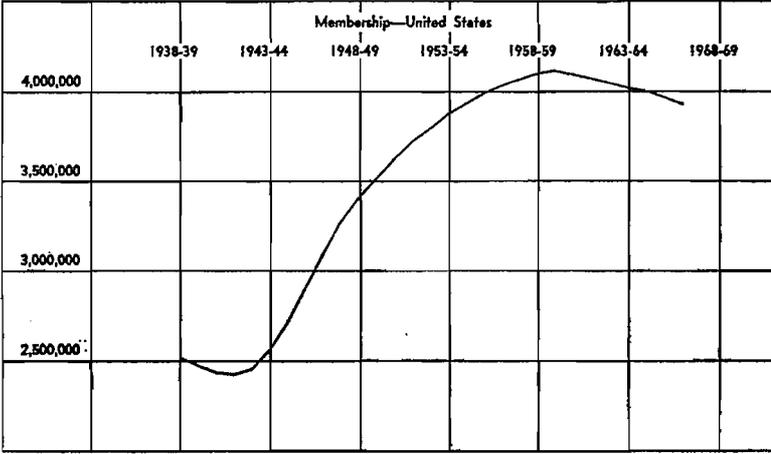
## Chapter VII

### MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

For over 40 years the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa has been compiling yearly membership summaries of all the Grand Lodges of the United States and Canada. These have not only been published in the Annual Proceedings but also in the Grand Lodge Bulletin. This information has been readily supplied by the various Grand Lodge Secretaries and the figures have been republished by many Grand Lodge publications as well as by other agencies.

Trusting that the figures for the last 30 years might be interesting they are presented here in graph as well as in tabular form.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS



## UNITED STATES

Year	Lodges	Membership	Increase or Decrease*
1938-39	15,630	2,521,651	35,377*
1939-40	15,567	2,489,587	32,064*
1940-41	15,507	2,464,590	24,997*
1941-42	15,329	2,453,175	5,759*
1942-43	15,258	2,477,351	24,176
1943-44	15,215	2,560,752	83,401
1944-45	15,199	2,722,285	161,533
1945-46	15,154	2,903,878	181,593
1946-47	15,169	3,102,075	198,197
1947-48	15,205	3,284,068	181,993
1948-49	15,265	3,427,972	143,904
1949-50	15,304	3,548,121	120,149
1950-51	15,376	3,646,757	98,436
1951-52	15,437	3,731,689	84,932
1952-53	15,477	3,810,184	78,495
1953-54	15,549	3,892,711	82,527
1954-55	15,620	3,964,657	71,946
1955-56	15,672	4,013,126	48,469
1956-57	15,734	4,059,671	46,545
1957-58	15,779	4,087,042	27,371
1958-59	15,800	4,101,057	14,015
1959-60	15,797	4,104,003	2,946
1960-61	15,768	4,100,138	3,685*
1961-62	15,809	4,086,688	13,449*
1962-63	15,828	4,062,743	23,940*
1963-64	15,830	4,032,882	29,861*
1964-65	15,839	4,005,558	27,324*
1965-66	15,833	3,976,920	28,638*
1966-67	15,811	3,941,788	35,132*
1967-68	15,787	3,904,436	37,352*
1968-69	15,753	3,862,138	42,236*

## CANADA

Year	Lodges	Membership	Increase or Decrease*
1938-39	1,380	171,677	1,977*
1939-40	1,379	168,951	2,726*
1940-41	1,378	167,729	1,222*
1941-42	1,376	165,226	2,503*
1942-43	1,376	165,236	10
1943-44	1,374	168,476	3,240
1944-45	1,377	175,605	7,129
1945-46	1,376	183,035	7,430
1946-47	1,389	194,306	11,271
1947-48	1,400	203,259	8,953
1948-49	1,416	210,835	7,567
1949-50	1,422	218,139	7,304
1950-51	1,443	225,082	6,943
1951-52	1,451	230,278	5,196
1952-53	1,467	236,449	6,171
1953-54	1,483	242,476	6,027
1954-55	1,494	246,617	4,141
1955-56	1,507	250,369	3,822
1956-57	1,521	253,154	2,785
1957-58	1,526	256,175	3,021
1958-59	1,541	257,720	1,545
1959-60	1,557	259,197	1,477
1960-61	1,560	259,282	85
1961-62	1,573	259,006	276*
1962-63	1,578	257,439	1,567*
1963-64	1,585	255,478	1,961*
1964-65	1,590	253,281	2,128*
1965-66	1,599	250,478	2,803*
1966-67	1,597	247,504	2,974*
1967-68	1,597	243,983	3,521*
1968-69	1,597	240,238	3,745*



## Chapter VIII

### MASONIC RESEARCH IN IOWA

For nearly a hundred years Iowa Masonry has had at her disposal the ingredients of organized study for Masonic Research in the form of a Masonic Library perhaps unexcelled in excellence. Iowa has been blessed with brilliant, dedicated Masons who, with a passion, sought to learn more of the history, philosophy, symbolism, and teachings of the Fraternity.

From time to time, small, rather informal, study groups would band together, experience a loyal following for a limited number of meetings, and finally succumb to the inroads of more glamorous interests. But

the ground work had been laid. The more scholarly brethren of those days carried on investigative research of their own and shared the results through lectures and published articles. There came into existence the Masonic Research Committee, later to be the Masonic Service Committee, and later yet the Iowa Committee on Masonic Education.

Without doubt the outstanding development of Masonic Research was the creation of the National Masonic Research Society, headquartering at Anamosa. It spoke through "The Builder," a magazine of very high regard. The initial number was January, 1915, but alas! the Society fell upon hard times and "The Builder" was issued last in May, 1930.

#### RESEARCH AT IOWA CITY

But the seed had been sown and in 1948-49, a group was organized at Iowa City for Masonic Research and took the name of "Cygnulyra," making use of the implications in the name of the tavern where the Grand Lodge of England was first organized in 1717, "Goose and Gridiron Alehouse." This group petitioned the Grand Master for a Dispensation to form a Lodge of Research, but because the Code contained no provision for such a lodge the Dispensation was denied.

But Grand Master Swartslander in 1949 was sympathetic and in his report commented:

*It is the opinion of the Grand Master that the Code should be so amended that a lodge of research may be formed, and such a section is being proposed in another part of this report.*

*The brethren who made the application to form a lodge of research did so in good faith, and the Grand Master was willing to grant such a Dispensation had it been possible; also, the brethren making the application were very willing to delay their request until the Grand Lodge had acted upon a revision of the Code. It is the hope of the Grand Master that affirmative action will be taken on the proposed change.*

The proposed amendment was rejected, but the incoming Grand Master was instructed to appoint "a committee to investigate whether such lodges should be recommended and how the operation of such lodges should be fitted into our Iowa Masonry." In 1950 the committee made recommendation for such a lodge and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence introduced detailed law permitting the formation of a Lodge of Research and prescribed its rights, powers, and authority as follows:

*Lodges of Research shall be designated and numbered separately and consecutively commencing with "Research Lodge No. 1."*

*A lodge formed hereunder may elect to honorary, contributing, or subscribing membership Master Masons*

*or lodges of Master Masons in good standing in this or any other Grand Jurisdiction in Masonic affiliation with this Grand Lodge under such conditions as by its by-laws may be prescribed, which by-laws shall limit the power to vote to members belonging to Iowa lodges only.*

*(b) A Lodge of Research shall be a lodge of research only and have the right, power, and authority only:*

*(1) To promote within its own membership Masonic study and historical research;*

*(2) To present findings and conclusions to the lodge for discussion and interchange of judgment;*

*(3) To publish at convenient intervals proceedings or transactions containing such portions of the addresses and discussions in lodge as may be desirable to print;*

*(4) To publish new Masonic books of outstanding merit;*

*(5) To reproduce or print Masonic documents of historical importance;*

*(6) To reprint scarce Masonic books and pamphlets;*

*(7) To open and close its lodge on the Third Degree;*

*(8) To have such rights and authority as may be necessary to carry out such work.*

This was adopted into law and in 1951 Grand Master Glen G. Radcliffe reported that on July 31, 1950, he presented Cygnulyra Lodge of Research, U.D., with a

Dispensation indicating 30 charter members, and there were then installed as the three principal officers Ray V. Smith, Worshipful Master, Sterling J. Baldwin, Senior Warden, and Frederic S. Beebee, Junior Warden.

“The lodge was closed on a high level of interest and enthusiasm following my official charge to the lodge.”

In 1951 the Committee on Lodges Chartered and Under Dispensation reported:

*Your committee has received and reviewed the records of Cygnulyra Lodge of Research, U.D., and finds them in good order. The formation of Cygnulyra Lodge of Research, U.D., represents a new milestone in Iowa Masonry, and should be a challenge to the best Masonic minds within this Grand Jurisdiction. It affords unlimited opportunities and possibilities to all Masonic scholars who would pursue this field of Masonic activity.*

*While it is rather difficult to evaluate the work that has been accomplished, we feel, however, that their goal is to maintain the reputation Iowa Masonry has throughout the world, and your committee recommends that the Dispensation of Cygnulyra Lodge of Research, U.D., be continued for another year.*

The Committee on Lodges Chartered and Under Dispensation, in 1952, reported as follows:

*We have examined the records of the Cygnulyra Lodge. From the material prepared for Masonic study and their improved financial condition, we believe that this venture, although new in Iowa, is sufficiently established to warrant the granting of a Charter. We, therefore, recommend that a Charter be granted to Cygnulyra Lodge of Research, U.D., to be known as Research Lodge No. 1, as by statute provided in Section 113½ of the Code.*

The law, as adopted earlier, nullified the use of the name Cygnulyra and the Charter was granted and presented by Grand Master Thomas who reported as follows:

*The Charter of Research Lodge No. 1, the first such Charter ever to be granted by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, was formally presented to O. A. White, Worshipful Master of Iowa City Lodge No. 4, who in turn was to transmit it to Ray V. Smith, Worshipful Master of the newly chartered Lodge.*

The Grand Master said:

*Brother White, I am very pleased to inform you that the Committee on Lodges Chartered and Under Dispensation reviewed the activities of Cygnulyra Lodge of Research, U.D., and have seen fit to grant you a Charter to be known as Research Lodge No. 1.*

*I trust that this will make the brethren at Iowa City*

*very happy and that you there will continue in the splendid work you are doing in this lodge.*

### RESEARCH LODGE IN DES MOINES

In 1967 Grand Master William W. Brubaker reported:

*On March 20, 1967, I received a petition from fifteen brothers located in Des Moines to be granted a dispensation to form a research lodge to be located in Des Moines. I held several conferences with the interested brethren, and on June 15, 1967, I issued a dispensation to the fifteen brothers to form a research lodge under the name of Discovery Lodge, U.D. On July 1, 1967, James Irish, P.D.G.M., instituted the lodge.*

*It is my opinion that this research lodge will be of great value to Masonry, not only in Des Moines, but over the entire state. I urge all brothers interested in such work to contact the brothers of this new research lodge or the brothers of Research Lodge No. 1 located at Iowa City.*

Since the Dispensation is rather unique we quote it here in its entirety:

*To All to Whom It May Concern —*

*Greeting:*

*Whereas, a Petition of fifteen Master Masons in this jurisdiction, praying that a Dispensation may be granted*

*them to open and hold a Lodge of Research at the City of Des Moines, Polk County, State of Iowa, has been presented to me for consideration;*

*And Whereas, it appears from the papers that the petitioners have in all respects complied with the requirements of the Constitution and Laws on this subject enacted by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and that the prayer of the petitioners ought to be granted;*

*Now, Know Ye, that I, William W. Brubaker, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, by virtue of the power in me vested by the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, aforesaid, do grant this, my Dispensation, to Robert Kitchell, R. Thomas Quick, Rex E. Evans, Jerald E. Marsengill, Richard S. Grant, James H. Windsor III, James P. Irish, Daniel M. Grindle, W. Leighton Tyrell, Ralston J. James, Hoyett Parker, Glen C. Eaton, E. Merle Lint, Forrest M. Gray, and E. P. Sherman, the petitioners aforesaid, and to their lawful associates and successors, and empower them to open and hold a Research Lodge at the place aforesaid, to be called and distinguished by the name of Discovery Lodge, U.D., the stated meetings thereof to be held semiannually in December and July of each year; and I do, by these presents, appoint Brother E. P. Sherman as Worshipful Master, Robert Kitchell as Senior Warden, and Daniel M. Grindle as Junior Warden, and with continuances to them of the said powers and privileges*

*until the first day of August, 1968, and no longer, at which time they are hereby enjoined to make a return of this Dispensation (which shall have been recorded in full in their Lodge Record), to the office of our Grand Secretary, at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with all their official doings under the same, as required by the Laws of our said Grand Lodge, and the orders and Edicts issued from this office.*

*Provided, Nevertheless, that the officers and members of said Lodge pay due respect to our Grand Lodge and its Constitution, Laws, and Regulations, otherwise this Dispensation, and all things therein contained, to be void and of no effect.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto attached my signature, and caused these presents to be attested by the Grand Secretary, under seal of the Grand Lodge, this 15th Day of June, A.D., 1967, and of the Grand Lodge of Iowa the 123rd.*

The meetings are to be held in the Temple of Home Lodge No. 370 and the stated Communications are to be the first Saturdays of July and December at 7:30 p.m. In addition to the three principal officers named by the Grand Master in the Dispensation, Rex E. Evans was named Treasurer and Jerald E. Marsengill, Secretary.

On July 1, by deputation of the Grand Master, James P. Irish, former Deputy Grand Master, was the

instituting officer. At the conclusion of the ceremony the first business meeting of the new lodge was held.

At the Grand Lodge Communication on September 19, 1968, the Committee on Lodges Chartered and Under Dispensation, after examining the records of Discovery Lodge, recommended the granting of a Charter to Research Lodge No. 2. By vote of the delegates the Charter was granted.

The new Grand Master, Edwin A. Hamilton, convened the Grand Lodge in Emergent Communication on December 2, 1968, in the hall of Home Lodge No. 370, Des Moines, and Constituted Iowa's second lodge of research.



## Chapter IX

### SECRETARIES CONFERENCES

In 1934 Grand Master Lars A. Larson recommended the holding of conferences for the Secretaries of lodges. The conferences were to be under the direction of the Grand Secretary and were to be held simultaneously with the Regional Schools in January and February.

The first conferences (in 1935) with the number of Secretaries attending were as follows:

January 9, Humboldt, 23

January 16, Decorah, 9

January 30, Marshalltown, 23

February 20, Albia, 22

February 27, Logan, 20

March 20, Des Moines, 16

C. C. Hunt, Grand Secretary, held three of the conferences and Earl B. Delzell, Deputy Grand Secretary, held the remaining three. Topics discussed were lodge minutes, membership records, dues, dropping from the roll, completing Returns, and courtesy work, and this pattern has, to a great extent, been continued.

For the first 13 years, Secretaries attended without any compensation or reimbursement for expenses. Attendance averaged 77 Secretaries each year.

In 1947 an Amendment to the Code paid mileage and per diem, which at that time was 10 cents per mile one way and \$5 per diem, and since that innovation the average attendance per year has more than doubled to 157 Secretaries attending a conference each year. In 1953 the law changed the per diem to \$7 for delegates to Grand Lodge, but specifically held the per diem for Secretaries Conferences to \$5.

Beginning with the fiscal year of 1960-61 the Board of Custodians increased the Regional Schools to 15 so the Secretaries Conferences were increased to about ten hoping to hold a conference within driving distance for each Secretary. Since that change, the total number of Secretaries attending a conference each year has averaged 177.

In 1961 Grand Lodge increased the per diem for delegates to Grand Lodge to \$8 and mileage to seven cents each way and while the new mileage rate applied to Secretaries Conferences, the increase in per diem did not and the per diem for attending the Secretaries Conferences remained at \$5.



## Chapter X

### IOWA COMMITTEE ON MASONIC EDUCATION

This important Standing Committee of the Grand Lodge, the Iowa Committee on Masonic Education, can boast of a glorious past service. It has had two ancestors. In June, 1913, when the Grand Lodge was in session in Council Bluffs, the Grand Daddy of our present committee was born.

Originally, the work of this committee was conceived in the fertile brain of the eminent Louis Block, member of Trinity Lodge No. 208 of Davenport, Grand Master in 1911-12, and he revealed it in his Report as follows:

*Many a Mason who learns to roll the ritual trippingly from his tongue never dreams that behind its mystic words there lie concealed thoughts and meanings which it is well worth his while to discover. Such a Mason is apt to go through life mechanically mouthing ritualistic phrases like some ignorant devotee chanting a Latin litany of whose real meaning he knows little or nothing.*

*It is one thing to be able to commit and recite a ritual, and quite another to know that that ritual has a meaning, and to know what that meaning is, and to let it make for wisdom, strength, and beauty in our daily lives.*

*A change that shall be brought about, not by abating one whit our scrupulous care to see that the ritual is correctly and thoroughly taught, nor by abandoning our present excellent system of Schools of Instruction. For our fault lies not in the fact that we have been overcareful to teach the correct rendering of the ritualistic word, but that we have forgotten at the same time to pay proper attention to the teachings of the glorious philosophy that lies behind it. We have been guilty not of a sin of commission, but of omission. Our offense lies not in what we have done, but in what we have left undone.*

*In thinking the matter over I have often felt that*

*the end hoped for could best be accomplished by the creation of a special Grand Lodge committee, whose aim and purpose it should be to foster the cultivation among the lodges of the thought-side of Masonry. Such a committee ought to be composed of leading Masons of well known reputation in the field of Masonic learning and philosophy, and possessed of a burning desire to teach the great tenets of our profession.*

*Such a special committee as I have in mind could cooperate with the Board of Custodians in conducting the Schools of Instruction, and could encourage and incite the lodges, by the formation of study clubs, by the promotion of lectures and addresses given in the lodges by Masonic investigators and speakers of note, and by the reading of Masonic periodicals and publications, to great enthusiasm along the lines of Masonic research and study. We are possessed of a most wonderful Masonic literature, covering a wide field and filled with fascinating subjects for consideration.*

*Such a committee as I have in mind could be composed of three eminent Masons, and could — for want of a more suitable term — be designated as “the Masters of the Meaning.” And I firmly believe that such a committee, co-operating with the Board of Custodians and the Grand Lodge*

*Librarian, with his fine system of circulating libraries, could do a world of good in our Masonic field.*

*I leave the subject with you for your most earnest and thoughtful consideration.*

The Jurisprudence Committee later reported:

*Under the heading, "The Study Side of Masonry," the Grand Master recommends that a special Grand Lodge committee be appointed to co-operate with the Board of Custodians in conducting Schools of Instruction, to encourage and incite the lodges to greater zeal in the study of Masonry, and a proposed amendment to the Code is presented for that purpose.*

*Your committee is quite impressed with the thought but think more time is required to properly formulate a plan, and it recommends that the matter be continued till the next communication of this Grand Lodge.*

Proposed Amendment to Section 24 of the Code.

Resolved: That the following paragraph be added to Section 24 of the Code:

*Masonic Research — (A) A Committee on Masonic Research, whose province it shall be to promote, foster, and encourage research and study in the field of Masonic tradition, literature, law, and philosophy by the lodges and their members, in*

*order to bring about among the craft a better understanding and appreciation of Masonic symbolism, such committee to co-operate with the Board of Custodians and the Grand Lodge Librarian.*

*(B) The Grand Master shall select for membership upon this committee Masons who are qualified by their Masonic learning and culture to impart information upon the subjects named and to awaken enthusiasm for such study among the craft.*

*(C) When first appointed, one member of such committee shall be selected to serve for three years, one for two years, and one for one year, and thereafter one member shall be appointed annually to serve for a term of three years.*

This proposed amendment was continued until the next Annual Communication in 1913. At the Annual Communication at Council Bluffs in 1913, Past Grand Master Louis Block for the Jurisprudence Committee reported on the amendment authorizing a Committee on Masonic Research as a Standing Committee of the Grand Lodge and the amendment was passed almost word for word as it had been proposed a year earlier.

The Grand Master for 1913-14 was Frank B. Whitaker of Van Buren County (perhaps Keosauqua) and in November, 1913, he appointed to this new committee Louis Block, P.G.M., of Davenport, C. C. Hunt of Montezuma, and J. A. Barry of Cedar Rapids.

Brother Block made the first report of the Committee on Masonic Research at the Annual Communication at Des Moines in June, 1914. He said:

*Its purpose is "to encourage and incite the lodges, by the formation of study clubs, by the promotion of lectures and addresses given in the lodges and the schools of instruction by Masonic investigators and speakers of note, and by the reading and study of Masonic literature to greater enthusiasm and along the lines of Masonic research and study."*

*Thus far the work of the committee has been largely confined to the following five (5) definite objects:*

- 1. The establishment of a Masonic lecture bureau in Iowa.*
- 2. The organization of Masonic study clubs.*
- 3. The formation of classes in Masonic law.*
- 4. The promotion of the use of traveling libraries.*
- 5. The providing of lecturers for the schools of instruction.*

At the Annual Communication in June of 1920 at Fort Dodge the formation of a Speakers Bureau was added to the activities of the Research Committee by proper amendment to the law.

The next year (1921) at Waterloo the Chairman of the Research Committee, C. C. Hunt, in his report proposed a change in the name for the committee and

listed Masonic Information, Masonic Education, and Service Committee as possibilities and suggested the matter be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The Jurisprudence Committee complied and formulated an amendment changing the name to Masonic Service Committee and increasing the committee to five members which was adopted.

The Masonic Service Committee remained such for 25 years.

The Masonic Code for 1928 made provision for the Service Committee to employ a Secretary to be approved by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge and we learn from the minutes of the Grand Lodge Trustees for November 10, 1929, that they approved the June 13, 1929, minutes of the Service Committee wherein Frank S. Moses, P.G.M., was the employed Secretary.

The name of Burton H. Saxton, P.G.M., appears as Secretary of the Committee for 1935-36.

In 1946 at Des Moines, Grand Master William L. Perkins recommended, and the Committee concurred, that the name of the Committee be changed to the Iowa Committee on Masonic Education and an amendment was adopted making the change.

The newly named committee functioned first in 1946-47. Ben F. Butler, P.G.T., Waterloo, was renamed chairman. Other members of this committee were

H. J. Thornton, Iowa City; Don G. Mullan, Odebolt; Frederic M. Miller, Des Moines, and Realf Ottesen, P.G.M., Davenport. Burton H. Saxton, P.G.M., was Secretary.

Upon Brother Saxton's retirement he was succeeded by Cecil S. Myers on April 1, 1949. Brother Myers retired from the work at Grand Lodge in June, 1952. Brother Forrest P. Hagan was appointed to succeed him. Brother Hagan resigned from this position on May 3, 1959, to accept the position of Superintendent of the Masonic Sanitarium at Bettendorf. The present Secretary, Brother Henry E. Kunz, assumed the duties of this important task on November 1, 1959.



## Chapter XI

### ANNUAL MEETING TIME OF GRAND LODGE CHANGED

The first bylaws (1844) of the Grand Lodge of Iowa set the time and place for opening the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January at Iowa City.

In 1846 the Grand Lodge approved a proposal that stated merely the first Tuesday in June, leaving Iowa City as the place.

A later proposal naming Burlington, Bloomington, and Dubuque as the places in 1847, 1848, and 1849,

respectively, was defeated. The original proposal was submitted to the lodges, they approved, and the next Annual Communication was at Iowa City on Tuesday, June 1, 1847.

This date prevailed for 62 years. In 1908 a change to the second Tuesday in June was introduced. This was submitted to the lodges. Again they approved and the change was announced in 1909 and the 1910 Annual Communication began on the second Tuesday of June.

Since 1910 this date had prevailed. During this period, and before, Iowa had leaned heavily on the rural population for its productive wealth and in this were counted many members of the Fraternity.

June is a busy time for people who work the soil and these people greatly affect the activities of Masons even in this later day when Iowa is undergoing its share of industrialization. In 1953 C. D. Jory, P.G.M., chairman of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, came before the Grand Lodge with the following:

“The Grand Secretary handed me yesterday morning a petition which reads as follows:

*We, the undersigned Worshipful Masters and Wardens of Masonic lodges located in Southwest Iowa, hereby petition the Grand Lodge of Iowa that the date set for the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Iowa be held on the third Tuesday in September of each year instead of the second Tuesday in June of each year, for*

*the reason that approximately ninety per cent of the members are farmers and the second Tuesday in June is usually the busiest time in the year for farmers, and we, therefore, petition that Section 19 of Article VI of the Constitution of the Masonic Code of Iowa be amended to read as follows:*

*The Grand Lodge shall hold one regular communication each year, commencing on the third Tuesday of September, at nine o'clock A.M.*

“That is signed by one or more of the officers of 26 lodges. The matter came in too late to be submitted to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, too late for any action this year. I have not even had an opportunity to talk it over with the committee, but I am sure that they will agree with me that the matter should be referred to our incoming Grand Master for his consideration and recommendations for next year.”

The following year (1954) an amendment was proposed by the Taylor County Study Group and the Masters and Wardens Association of that area as follows:

*The Grand Lodge shall hold one regular communication each year, commencing on the third Thursday of September, at nine o'clock a.m.; and each year the Custodians shall hold a School of Instruction in the Ritual in the city where the Grand Lodge Communication is held, to be known as the Grand Lodge School.*

*This school shall commence at nine o'clock a.m. on the Monday preceding the regular Grand Lodge Communication and shall continue through the Tuesday and Wednesday following.*

This amendment was approved by Grand Lodge, but because it involved changing the Constitution, which requires passage of a change in the constitutional law two years in succession before it becomes effective, it was again to be voted on in 1955.

In 1955 the above proposal was again approved and the annual communication of the Grand Lodge was moved from June to the third Thursday of September at nine a.m. for 1956.

In 1959 the Grand Lodge School, which by law preceded the opening of Grand Lodge, was held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, September 14, 15, and 16. There had developed a feeling that the Grand Lodge could be telescoped into a two-day session and it appeared this was going to be done this year. The result was the introduction of a change in the Constitution calling for Grand Lodge to open on the third Wednesday of September and for a Grand Lodge School to precede Grand Lodge, opening on Monday. This would limit the school to two days. This was agreed to (even advocated) by the Custodians because they were finding brethren were more accurate and it took less time to run through the entire Ritual. The

proposed change in the law read as follows:

*The Grand Lodge shall hold one regular communication each year, commencing on the third Wednesday of September, at eight o'clock a.m.; and each year the Custodians shall hold a School of Instruction in the Ritual in the city where the Grand Lodge Communication is held, to be known as the Grand Lodge School. This school shall commence at eight o'clock a.m. on the Monday preceding the regular Grand Lodge Communication and shall continue through the Tuesday following.*

This change was approved by the Grand Lodge, but to become effective it must again be approved in 1960 which was done. By the change the Grand Lodge was to start on the third Wednesday of September at eight o'clock (the number of days it is to continue is not specified) and the Grand Lodge School was limited to two days since it was to start at eight o'clock on Monday and Grand Lodge was to open at eight o'clock on Wednesday.

While this shorter time for holding the Grand Lodge School and for the Grand Lodge Session requires more careful scheduling and budgeting of time, it seems to have worked out to the satisfaction of all. Delegates are glad to save a day so they can return to their homes and various vocations.



## Chapter XII

# GRAND LODGE PAYROLL STATISTICS

## STATISTICS

- A. Grand Lodge Payroll
- B. Grand Lodge Attendance

## A. GRAND LODGE PAYROLL

Year	Place and Payroll	Custodians and District Lecturers		Grand Lodge Officers		Trustees and Committeemen		No. of Lodges	Representatives Amount Paid for Mileage and Average Miles per Lodge per One Way		Amount Paid for per Diem
		No. Present	Amount Paid	No. Present	Amount Paid	No. Paid	Amount Paid		Amount	Miles	
1939	Sioux City \$16,271.79	103	\$2,271.68	14	\$ 533.94	65	\$1,873.75	477	\$5,936.42	207	\$5,656.00
1940	Burlington \$14,634.76	103	1,950.82	14	545.07	71	1,495.01	460	5,215.86	189	5,428.00
1941	Council Bluffs \$14,476.55	103	2,089.81	14	568.76	66	1,554.16	449	4,955.82	184	5,308.00
1942	Dubuque \$13,130.70	103	1,996.71	14	639.75	74	1,520.44	394	4,405.80	186	4,568.00
1943	Des Moines \$11,932.86	85	1,630.31	14	476.71	53	1,324.52	417	2,617.32	104	5,785.00
1944	Cedar Rapids \$12,974.30	103	2,120.61	14	556.76	74	1,574.35	386	3,212.58	138	5,510.00
1946	Des Moines \$11,850.45	103	2,126.21	15	665.00	67	1,267.54	381	2,501.70	109	5,290.00
1947	Davenport \$12,287.33	94	1,969.72	15	685.58	57	1,614.55	315	3,522.48	186	4,495.00
1948	Sioux City \$17,276.69	102	2,461.36	14	820.09	61	2,103.84	350	6,956.40	199	4,935.00
1949	Cedar Rapids \$13,418.53	103	2,225.62	14	677.79	57	1,555.92	344	4,374.20	127	4,585.00

A. GRAND LODGE PAYROLL (Continued)

Year	Place and Payroll	Custodians and District Lecturers		Grand Lodge Officers		Trustees and Committeemen		No. of Lodges	Representatives	Amount Paid for Mileage and Average Miles per Lodge One Way	Amount Paid for per Diem
		No. Present	Amount Paid	No. Present	Amount Paid	No. Paid	Amount Paid		Amount Paid		
1950	Burlington \$15,105.62	102	2,358.02	14	803.80	62	2,105.30	314	5,458.50 173	4,380.00	
1951	Des Moines \$11,992.85	103	2,294.97	14	709.43	66	1,802.95	313	3,180.50 101	4,005.00	
1952	Cedar Rapids \$13,907.63	102	2,197.96	14	705.75	67	1,692.92	365	4,551.00 124	4,760.00	
1953	Davenport \$15,126.37	103	2,657.38	14	802.27	65	2,094.52	317	5,377.20 169	4,195.00	
1954	Sioux City \$19,209.32	97	3,100.19	14	916.69	67	2,582.24	323	6,317.20 195	6,293.00*	
1955	Cedar Rapids \$18,627.90	103	3,076.37	14	788.40	67	2,249.03	385	5,206.10 135	7,308.00	
1956	Des Moines \$16,316.20	103	2,834.18	14	779.40	64	1,970.32	388	3,816.30 98	6,916.00	
1957	Sioux City \$19,379.46	103	3,350.74	14	803.09	64	2,350.63	335	6,498.00 193	6,377.00	
1958	Davenport \$21,405.94	126	3,839.88	14	853.70	66	2,290.46	392	6,945.90 177	7,476.00	
1959	Cedar Rapids \$18,171.41	118	3,441.05	14	645.07	66	2,108.09	450	5,957.20 132	6,020.00†	

## A. GRAND LODGE PAYROLL (Continued)

Year	Place and Payroll	Custodians and District Lecturers		Grand Lodge Officers		Trustees and Committeemen		No. of Lodges	Representatives Amount Paid for Mileage and Average Miles per Lodge One Way		Amount Paid for per Diem
		No. Present	Amount Paid	No. Present	Amount Paid	No. Paid	Amount Paid		Average Miles per Lodge One Way	Amount Paid for per Diem	
1960	Des Moines \$16,907.01	111	3,271.93	14	895.67	66	1,907.31	453	4,924.10	5,908.00	
1961	Sioux City \$22,120.04	128	4,081.46	14	823.33	77	2,622.69	343	9,464.56 108	5,128.00†	
1962	Davenport \$23,453.55	127	4,263.97	14	926.82	77	3,318.76	367	9,296.00 189	5,648.00	
1963	Cedar Rapids \$19,926.42	121	3,501.76	14	991.20	76	3,178.26	367	6,703.20 131	5,552.00	
1964	Des Moines \$17,523.44	98	3,086.49	14	910.94	64	2,685.15	365	5,376.86 105	5,464.00	
1965	Burlington \$20,358.80	105	3,229.13	14	1,251.15	70	3,500.32	329	7,482.20 162	4,896.00	
1966	Sioux City \$22,192.34	101	3,696.14	14	1,282.64	65	4,244.77	315	8,320.79 188	4,648.00	
1967	Davenport \$21,760.40	125	4,382.18	14	1,255.05	53	4,509.78	348	7,173.39 147	4,440.00	
1968	Des Moines \$17,045.14	111	3,282.33	14	1,479.66	73	3,845.73	295	4,109.42 99	4,328.00	
1969	Cedar Rapids \$20,571.26	115	3,302.87	14	1,911.75	60	5,258.12	312	5,466.52§ 131	4,632.00§	

PAYROLL STATISTICS

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\*\$7.00 per diem begins here.

†Two-day session begins here.

‡\$8.00 per diem begins here.

§Estimated.

## B. ATTENDANCE AT GRAND LODGE

Year	City	No. of Working Lodges	No. of Lodges Represented in Attendance	Percentage of Lodges in Attendance	Total Individual Attendance	Total Membership
1939	Sioux City	548	477	87	702	66,933
1940	Burlington	546	460	84	687	66,875
1941	Council Bluffs	545	449	82	681	66,691
1942	Dubuque	545	394	72	569	66,811
1943	Des Moines	543	417	76	766	67,535
1944	Cedar Rapids	543	386	70	911	69,444
1945	—	543	—	—	—	73,072
1946	Des Moines	543	381	70	770	76,864
1947	Davenport	544	315	57	655	81,461
1948	Sioux City	545	350	64	664	84,802
1949	Cedar Rapids	546	344	63	678	87,563
1950	Burlington	546	314	57	625	89,658
1951	Des Moines	546	313	57	701	91,477
1952	Cedar Rapids	546	365	66	708	92,892
1953	Davenport	547	317	57	665	93,747
1954	Sioux City	548	323	58	661	95,450
1955	Cedar Rapids	549	385	70	885	95,110
1956	Des Moines	548	388	70	852	95,120
1957	Sioux City	549	335	61	714	95,155
1958	Davenport	548	392	71	792	94,863
1959	Cedar Rapids	548	450	82	962	94,381
1960	Des Moines	547	453	82	958	93,594
1961	Sioux City	545	343	62	760	92,641
1962	Davenport	542	367	67	777	91,718
1963	Cedar Rapids	538	369	68	766	90,794
1964	Des Moines	535	365	68	945	89,905
1965	Burlington	534	329	61	701	88,917
1966	Sioux City	535	315	58	679	87,758
1967	Davenport	532	348	65	653	86,436
1968	Des Moines	529	295	55	652	85,181
1969	Cedar Rapids	530	312	58	695	83,728



### Chapter XIII

## WHO WILL BE OUR NEXT GRAND MASTER

For the 20-year period 1938-39 to 1958-59, the answer to this question was a well-known fact only to most of the delegates who were ready to vote for Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. Certainly it was not known to all the delegates. Neither was it shouted from the rooftops and for anyone to state to a representative of the press that "John Doe" would be the next Grand Master was plain heresy.

Those "in the know" acquired the information from someone else who had made the fact known at some

kind of Masonic gathering during the year. Such comments made orally, but never uttered for print or publication, generally, as "John Doe will probably be the next Grand Master," or "John Doe is in the spot to be elected Grand Master," were passed around and members who attended meetings during the year were almost certain to hear "John Doe's" name at least once. In Iowa each year there had been several hundred meetings — schools, receptions, special degree nights — attended by interested brethren who share each other's thoughts.

But this name was never announced from the East and scarcely uttered above a whisper.

How was the name selected? Actually, it was the name of the brother whom the Grand Master had selected to be the Chairman of the Grand Lodge (permanent) Committee on Division and Reference. From outward appearance the Grand Master made the selection, but whom he consulted and in whom he confided was his own business, but without doubt he received guidance in the selection.

For many years up to and through the Grand Lodge of 1938, Iowa had a Committee on Grand Master's Address. This committee, of course, made the usual report at Grand Lodge. The 1938 Proceedings, in listing the Committees for 1938-39, listed a committee of three for Grand Master's Address. The 1939

Proceedings listed the committees and omitted Grand Master's Address and instead listed the Committee on Division and Reference and for it named the three brethren who had been listed as the Committee on Grand Master's Address at the end of the 1938 Grand Lodge Session. The record does not reveal how the change was accomplished, and the Code is silent about this, but it evidently was a smooth transaction the technical manipulation being covered up by the reorganization and reprinting of the 1938 Code.

Previous to 1939 there seemed to have been no plan for the selection of a Grand Master. Certainly, it was not understood that it was to be the Chairman of the Committee on Grand Master's Address because only twice in the previous ten years (1934-35 and 1937-38) had the Grand Lodge elected Grand Masters who had been Chairmen of the Committee on Grand Master's Address the year preceding their election as Grand Master.

For the next twenty years the quiet machine ran smoothly and the Chairman of the Committee on Division and Reference was elected Grand Master almost without opposition, much to the amazement of visitors.

But late in 1958-59 a group decided they did not want to follow the pattern heretofore prescribed, and carried out some circularization, an activity with which Grand Master C. Dale Cox did not agree and, at the

conclusion of his Report to Grand Lodge, he issued a Supplemental Report which we feel needs to be quoted in its entirety to throw more light on this problem:

*You have heard my report, which was prepared 30 days ago, intended to cover the conditions and activities of the Grand Lodge for the year ending tomorrow. Certain circumstances during the past 30 days have inspired me to formulate a supplement to my report, which I will read at this time.*

*Questions have reached me during the year, and particularly during the past 30 days, concerning the inadequate manner of explanation being given to the delegates of this Grand Lodge, particularly to those who are in attendance for the first time, as to Grand Lodge procedure as compared to the subordinate lodge, such questions as "How are the Grand Lodge Officers selected, what are the qualifications to become a Grand Lodge Officer, and why does the Grand Lodge have no officer line?"*

*I believe it is timely and proper to give detailed information and answers to these questions, based on my record of experience in Grand Lodge affairs and interest for more than 25 years.*

*First, let us consider the Masonic Code of Iowa, under Section 16, and I quote: "No brother shall be eligible for the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, or Grand Warden, who is not a Master or a*

*Past Master of a subordinate lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge."* No mention of officer line.

Then let us take Section 142 which states, and I quote: "No one shall be elected or appointed to office unless he is a Master Mason, a member in good standing in the lodge, qualified to vote therein, not delinquent in payment of dues, and of real worth and merit; provided, however, that no one shall be elected Master unless he has served as a Warden." Again no mention of officer line in the subordinate lodge.

Since there are no provisions in the Code for line officers in either Grand Lodge or the subordinate lodge, we turn then to the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry, custom, usage, or past practice, and the unwritten laws which we all agree are far stronger than the small volume of our printed Code, and which all good Masons revere.

Your present Grand Lodge Officers, with the exception of the Grand Secretary, are well aware that tomorrow will end their term of office, yet I believe that each of you will agree with me, that an important organization such as ours, to function properly, must plan ahead. This your Grand Lodge has done from year to year. Past practice for many years has established the custom for the Grand Master, after his election, to appoint a Chairman for the Division and Reference Committee, who is well qualified to serve

*as Grand Master for the following year. By traditional usage and custom this places the brother in line for Grand Master, subject to the will of the delegates by their vote. To my knowledge no Grand Master has ever made such an appointment without first consulting experienced brethren for guidance on this important appointment. This method was followed last year in accordance with our ancient customs, or unwritten laws. There has been no change made in the Chairman of the Committee on Division and Reference during the year, and, at my request, he has attended various committee meetings for the past year in preparation for assuming the duties of Grand Master for the coming year.*

*The printed program, which you have for ready reference at this communication, has all the Grand Lodge Officers, Committeemen, and Board Members listed, as has been the practice in the past.*

*As for the selection or election of Wardens, there is no set pattern of committee appointments as recommendations from year to year, yet again there must be some planning, which always prevails in well conducted organizations. For many years it has been the custom to elect Wardens from the group of Past Appointive Grand Lodge Officers or Committeemen who have proven their ability and availability by their past actions in state-wide Masonic activities. Names have been dis-*

*cussed this year as other years, and I suggest to the delegates who are unfamiliar with the procedure to contact your neighboring Past Grand Lodge Officer, whom you usually consult, and discuss this further and formulate your opinions prior to two o'clock tomorrow afternoon, the time set by your law for the election of the new officers.*

*As for the Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge, like the subordinate lodge, as a rule re-elects the Secretary unless unusual circumstances prevail. To my knowledge no such circumstances or irregularities prevail in our present Grand Secretary's office.*

*As for the Grand Treasurer, again there is the unwritten law of past practice. After a brother has served well on the Finance Committee for three years, he is usually elevated by your vote to the office of Grand Treasurer. I know of only one exception to this practice or rule for many years, which is a matter of record.*

*The practice or custom of no officer line in Grand Lodge was established more than 100 years ago, for reasons probably more obvious today than at that time. It not only gives an opportunity for more members to serve as Grand Lodge Officers, but also enables them to serve the Craft more fully, for very few brothers could for physical and financial reasons follow a long line and advance from year to year and keep pace with the present Grand Lodge activities and duties.*

*This, my brethren, is a brief outline of the inner workings of your Grand Lodge. I hope it is of some benefit to the delegates who are attending for the first time. Let me again impress upon you the fact that while our Code provides in simple form the laws of which you, the Grand Lodge, approve and offer amendments from year to year, yet far more important is that unwritten law which each of us lives by every day of our lives and respect in accordance with the ancient customs and traditions of our beloved Fraternity.*

*Four weeks ago, letters were handed to me which were addressed to the Master and Wardens of all Masonic lodges in Iowa, prepared and mailed or handed out by two Past Grand Lodge Officers.*

*I understand that most of the Masters of the subordinate lodges received one or both of these letters.*

*I want it understood that no request was made or permission granted from my office or that of the Grand Secretary to circularize the lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction in this unprecedented method or manner.*

*Nothing in the Code forbids such action, however, by the unwritten laws of our time-honored Institution, the customs and ancient usages of procedure were grossly violated in this instance.*

*If it was the purpose to humiliate the Grand Master, I assure you that it was accomplished, for I lost many*

*hours of sleep and shed many a tear over the lack of respect implied for this office by the sending of such letters to every Master of this Grand Jurisdiction.*

*In the future, let us well consider the unwritten, as well as the written, Code of Masonry before undertaking any action which is meant to be for the good of the Fraternity.*

This Report crystalized the thinking in the method of choosing the new Grand Master and in 1963 a law was adopted to put before the delegates names of brethren proposed for candidates for Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, and Grand Treasurer by the present and Past Elective Grand Officers assembled in Des Moines between April 1 and May 15 and submitted to the lodges prior to June 1.

In 1967 the Code was amended to provide for the name of the brother named by the Grand Master, after consultation with and approval of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, as Chairman of the Committee on Division and Reference, to be sent to the lodges prior to June 1.

Some have opposed this method of selecting a new Grand Master and have sought instead to see the Deputy Grand Master elected and then, at the end of his year, advanced to Grand Master. But this has failed to receive sufficient support and has not been adopted.

The supplemental report of Brother Cox and the

1967 amendment to our law resulted essentially in the nomination of a brother to be the next Grand Master, subject to the vote of the delegates to Grand Lodge. His name is now no longer hush-hush, and peace, harmony, and happiness prevail.



## Chapter XIV

# RESTRICTIONS PRIOR TO AND AFTER PROFICIENCY

For many years Symbolical Masonry in Iowa has been plagued (some think to the point of painful suffering) by the early siphoning of the newly raised Master Masons into the York Rite and Scottish Rite. For a long time Iowa has had the law that a Master Mason must pass proficiency on the Third Degree Posting Lecture before he could vote, hold office, serve on committees, demit, or petition the York Rite or

Scottish Rite. Obviously the latter restriction was intended to hold the Mason's interest in the symbolic lodge until the lodge had time to indoctrinate him in some of the philosophy, teachings, and symbolism of the ancient craft of Masonry.

The York and Scottish Rites are not prohibited from soliciting members and in areas where these bodies are active and candidates are needed for classes on which the degrees can be conferred, competition, pressure, and enthusiasm combined to push a new Master Mason to petition one or both of these organizations for membership just as soon as he had been declared proficient on the Third Degree in open lodge. There were, and still are, lodges in which, when one, two, or more were to take the proficiency examination, a representative, or more than one of these other bodies, would be present, like a cat watching at a mouse hole, ready to confront the brother with a petition.

This was disconcerting to the new Mason and if the solicitor was unsuccessful in securing the petition it was not unusual for him to return so often and with such persistence that the newly raised Mason would become so annoyed he would stay away from lodge. This has delayed and in some cases actually indefinitely postponed, perhaps forever, the proficiency examination for this member.

This situation was so distasteful in certain areas of

the state that in 1951 the delegates voted into the law to accompany the five restrictions prior to proficiency, a restriction after proficiency as follows:

*One year must elapse after he has proved his proficiency in the Third Degree before he can petition for degrees or membership in such Masonic bodies as are recognized in Section 102 of the Code.*

This limitation was distasteful to a segment of the Fraternity and in 1952 an amendment to the law was introduced seeking to reduce the time for petitioning other bodies from one year to six months. This proposal was rejected.

So the one-year waiting period continued in effect for another twelve months. At the Grand Lodge Communication in 1953, a proposed amendment to the law sought to return to allowing the individual to petition the other bodies as soon as he desired after he had been declared proficient on the Third Degree. Grand Master J. Ellit Grayson recommended the return to the previous statement of the law in these words:

*At the 1951 Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, an amendment to Section 290 was adopted which provided that a period of one year must elapse after a brother proves his proficiency in the Third Degree before he may petition for degrees or membership in such bodies as are recognized in Section 102 of the Code, or such bodies as may hereafter be recognized*

*by the Grand Lodge. At the last Annual Communication, an amendment was offered to reduce this so-called waiting period to six months, which amendment was rejected. I have given this proposed amendment a great deal of thought during the year, and have discussed it with many of the Craft throughout the entire state. It has been in effect two years, and I am convinced that no good has been accomplished by it. I am very much of the opinion that it is another case of general legislation being adopted to strike at individual or isolated case or cases. It is no doubt true that there were some violations of the old law which only required proficiency, but I am convinced that most if not all of the violations were due to an ignorance of the requirement both on the part of the petitioner and the brother who solicited his petition, rather than an intentional violation or ignoring of the law. The chief argument put forth by the proponents of such a legislation originally was that the so-called higher degrees were taking men away from the subordinate lodge and that the subordinate lodge program was suffering as a result. I am firmly convinced that if your Symbolic Lodge program is suffering, we should look elsewhere for the cause. It has been my experience that in towns where Royal Arch Chapters are located, in the majority of cases, we also find a good, active Symbolic Lodge, and, of course, in the cities where the Scottish Rite exists, we find the Blue Lodges flourishing.*

*Convinced as I am that nothing has been accomplished or nothing will be accomplished by such restrictive legislation, I recommend that the so-called waiting period legislation be repealed and we return to the old law which required only proficiency in the Third Degree.*

The previous law was restored and the controversy on the waiting period came to an end.



## Chapter XV

### MILEAGE AND PER DIEM

The mileage and per diem paid to delegates to the Grand Lodge Communication has changed considerably over the 30 years. These rates apply generally to anyone working in the Masonic program where reimbursement for mileage and per diem is involved.

In 1938 the law stipulated payment of \$4 per diem and 6 cents per mile one way. Six years later (1944) the per diem was raised to \$5. The mileage rate remained at 6 cents. Four years later (1948) the per diem remained at \$5, but the rate per mile was raised

to 10 cents. In 1953 per diem was boosted almost 50 percent (to \$7) with mileage remaining at 10 cents. In 1961 the rate of per diem was increased to \$8 and the mileage rate was set at 7 cents per round trip — or 14 cents on a one-way basis.



## Chapter XVI

### FAILURE TO PAY LODGE DUES

The collection of dues from the members of a lodge, since time immemorial one of the duties of a lodge Secretary, has its ups and downs. Most Secretaries accept the responsibility in good grace, but some resent being charged with this important task. It would seem to be that a big majority of lodge members wait to receive a statement before they pay dues. Hence, some record-keeping officer must provide this service and see that statements go to those members whose dues are unpaid. As in any organization it takes money for a lodge to

function and the collection of uniform dues from all members guarantees the capital with which to operate.

The following table reveals that for a number of years the Secretaries, for one reason or another, have failed to collect dues from an alarming portion of our Iowa Masons:

Year	No. Dropped N. P. D.	No. Restored
1938	1,422	887
1939	1,250	884
1940	1,200	788
1941	1,041	814
1942	869	786
1943	534	1,205
1944	344	1,458
1945	255	1,230
1946	345	926
1947	391	762
1948	470	575
1949	544	538
1950	929	551
1951	780	529
1952	781	521
1953	893	541
1954	994	494
1955	1,079	455
1956	1,034	490
1957	1,101	500
1958	1,049	487
1959	1,212	532
1960	1,110	524
1961	1,218	486
1962	955	499
1963	987	456
1964	951	444

Year	No. Dropped N. P. D.	No. Restored
1965	961	433
1966	969	430
1967	1,179	613
1968	999	579

Thirty years ago the Masonic Code of Iowa said that dues are due and payable on January 1 in advance and were delinquent six months after they were due. Obviously, delinquency was established at July 1 for most members. It was the duty of the Secretary, where dues were past due and unpaid, to notify the brother and request payment. If he paid there was no problem, but the Secretary was required to try again with the stubborn cases.

In 1943 the law required the Secretary, as soon as possible after dues became due, to inform the brother and request payment. In 1948 this law was made to read "when the dues become due" the Secretary was to send a courteous statement showing the amount due.

The law of 30 years ago provided that when the dues of a member became delinquent the Secretary was to notify him to appear at a definite stated communication and show cause why he should not be suspended. If he appeared and upon sufficient showing of inability to pay, the lodge might remit the dues or set a definite time for payment. In 1943 the law was changed to read that when dues were delinquent, the member was to be

notified that he would be dropped from the roll unless on or before the certain date of a stated communication he pay or give a reason satisfactory to the lodge why he couldn't pay. Also it was provided that if he was granted an extension of time it was not to go beyond that when he would owe two years dues. If his name was dropped he would automatically be restored as of the date he was dropped. In 1948 this was changed to "such payment or remission shall automatically restore him to the roll of members." No mention was made of date but the change was made to relieve Secretaries from falsifying the member's record by restoring him to the roll and counting time when he had not been on the roll of members. So in the absence of a date, restoration was interpreted as being the date the Secretary received the payment. Of course, if his absence from the roll was longer than one year the brother must petition for restoration and be voted on.

From the above it can readily be seen that a great responsibility was placed on the individual lodge and even upon the lodge Secretary. This led to ill feeling, diverse interpretations of the application of the law, and unconscionable record-keeping.

In 1968 the date for restoration within one year was by amendment clarified as "date of payment."

In 1950, legislation was adopted which changed many of the distasteful details of dropping a member for non-

payment of dues. Simplification of procedure was arrived at and because dates were specified and action spelled out many of the pressures were eliminated. The result is more accurate records toward which we can all work.

Four rather simple steps were adopted. (1) Early in the year (anytime after December 31) the Secretary must send to a brother, whose dues are unpaid, a courteous request for payment. (2) If his dues are still unpaid the Secretary must, within the first ten days of September, send him another courteous request for payment and tell him if his dues are not paid on or before the stated meeting in November, he would be dropped from the roll without action by the lodge. (This was popularly dubbed "automatic suspension.") (3) If his dues are still unpaid at the time of the November stated meeting, the Secretary announces it and the Master orders his name dropped from the roll. (4) Within 15 days of such meeting the Secretary is required to notify the brother of what happened and inform him how he may be restored to the roll. Neither the lodge nor the Secretary is allowed to grant an extension of time and the only date mentioned in the law is the November stated communication. Since the law is specific there is no misunderstanding on dates or what action is to be taken.



## Chapter XVII

### CHARITY AND THE LODGES OF IOWA

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not Charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal . . . and though I have all faith, . . . and have not Charity, I am nothing.” This terse description of an uncharitable person is familiar to millions of Christian people as well as to many non-Christians. This is the sentiment that constitutes the cementing bond of Freemasonry. In the original language the word was “Love,” a word denoting that

kindly state of mind which renders a person full of good will and affectionate regard toward others.

Many members of the Masonic Fraternity have too narrow a conception of the meaning of Charity. They regard Masonic Charity as being only that gesture of contributing money. But it is so much more than this. From Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, from which I have taken some of this material, we learned that the very cornerstone of our Fraternity is Charity. Charity is the brightest jewel in the Masonic Crown; adds beauty and grace to the Masonic fabric — it is not limited to feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, binding up the wounds of the afflicted, but includes that broader, nobler Charity that regards all men as Brothers. It certainly includes the use of money but it is much, much more and is even all-inclusive.

Our Masonry purposely does not advertise itself as a charitable organization because it does not want to guarantee or imply any such contract with its members, but rather to forge the relationship as a part of that intangible bond — the Mystic Tie.

Many lodges ignore this broad, all-inclusive evaluation of Masonic Charity and when a member has a misfortune, through no fault of his own, the lodge almost deserts him and looks to the Grand Lodge Charity Board to come to the rescue, thereby relieving the local lodge of all responsibility.

Back in 1960-61, a considerable study was made of the aspects of our Charity program on the local lodge level. Some felt that the local lodge members needed to be made more conscious of this broad view of Masonic Charity and proposed legislation (enacted into our law in 1961) that provided funds so the Charity Committee of the local lodge would have capital with which to work.

The legislation was as follows:

*It is the duty of a subordinate lodge in fixing the amount of its annual dues to allocate a portion thereof to provide for charity, which portion shall be paid over to the Trustees of the Charity Fund and kept by them in a special account to be used for charitable purposes only.*

This pinpointed and emphasized the Charity program of the lodge. Each lodge now has a Charity Fund. Some lodges channeled a larger proportion of their dues into their Charity Fund than others, but now, even when reports are read, the lodge is made increasingly conscious of lodge Charity and its importance. Iowa Masonry moved forward with its Charity.



## Chapter XVIII

### DEMOLAY

The Grand Lodge of Iowa early began to lend encouragement to this important training program for boys. DeMolay was organized in 1919 and in 1923 the Grand Lodge wrote into its law that the sponsoring and financing of DeMolay Chapters would not be in violation of Masonic law. In 1967 the scope of the law was enlarged to allow lodges to help in financing DeMolay Chapters sponsored by other recognized Masonic bodies.

Following the organization of the Iowa DeMolay

Foundation in 1962-63, the Grand Lodge of Iowa entered the DeMolay picture in earnest in 1963. Grand Master Ralph C. Brown placed before the Grand Lodge a resolution, which was subsequently adopted, wherein the Grand Lodge is to pay to the Foundation each year ten cents per Iowa member. Amounts paid so far are in 1964, \$8,857; 1965, \$8,730; 1966, \$8,613.30; 1967, \$8,465.55; 1968, \$8,321.55; 1969, \$8,149.15.

The Foundation employed Brother Donald L. Rasmussen, a member of the staff of the DeMolay office in Kansas City, as Director, and he assumed his new duties on October 1, 1965. He was fitted with an office on the second floor of the Grand Lodge Building. The Foundation reimburses the Grand Lodge for any expense entailed in the use of the room for DeMolay.

Brother Rasmussen prepared a report to Grand Lodge in 1966 and it and subsequent reports have been printed in the Proceedings.



## Chapter XIX

### GRAND MASTER'S EMERGENCY FUND

Since 1874 the Grand Lodge has maintained an Emergency Fund on which the Grand Master may draw for relief of Masons and their families who have suffered catastrophe such as fire, flood, or earthquake. This fund has been maintained by gifts from the brethren and in the period covered by this report the various Grand Masters have given to others the sum of over \$14,000 — probably near \$70,000 since its start.

When the funds are low a Grand Master may make his appeal and giving is entirely voluntary. Sometimes

a suggested amount is voiced. In 1950 the Emergency Fund was close to depletion and Grand Master Radcliffe made an appeal for voluntary contributions. The response was nearly \$15,000.

Iowa Masons are concerned when disaster strikes and they are proud of this phase of their Charity. The Grand Master has complete control of expenditures from the fund. The following chart gives a partial story:

## GRAND MASTER'S EMERGENCY FUND

Year	Balance	INCOME		DISBURSEMENTS		Balance
		Contributions	Purpose	Amount		
1938-39	\$ 4,383.06	\$ —	Sojourners, Tucson .....	\$ 25.00	\$	
			Chilean Disaster .....	1,344.76		
			Austrian Relief .....	340.00		2,673.30
1939-40	2,673.30	—	Sojourners, Tucson .....	25.00		2,648.30
1940-41	2,648.30	—	— .....	—		2,648.30
1941-42	2,648.30	4,255.42	Comm. Exp. ....	421.65		
			Special War Fund .....	2,883.77		3,598.30
1942-43	3,598.30	—	Sojourners, Tuscon .....	50.00		3,548.30
1943-44	3,548.30	—	— .....	—		3,548.30
1944-45	3,548.30	—	— .....	—		3,548.30
1945-46	3,548.30	—	— .....	—		3,548.30
1946-47	3,548.30	—	— .....	—		3,548.30
1947-48	3,548.30	—	— .....	—		3,548.30
1948-49	3,548.30	—	V.A. Hospital Visitor .....	200.00		3,348.30
1949-50	3,348.30	—	Ecuador Relief .....	500.00		2,848.30
1950-51	2,848.30	14,642.10	C.D. ....	*10,000.00		
			Canadian Relief .....	900.00		
			Refund .....	2.50		
			V.A. Visitor .....	1,000.00		5,587.90
1951-52	5,587.90	203.75	C.D. ....	100.00		5,691.65

## GRAND MASTER'S EMERGENCY FUND (Continued)

Year	Balance	INCOME		DISBURSEMENTS		Balance
		Contributions	Purpose	Amount		
1952-53	5,691.65	**10,201.00	Bond .....	*10,000.00		
			Holland Relief .....	500.00		
			Service Charge .....	2.32		5,390.33
1953-54	5,390.33	—	— .....	—		5,390.33
1954-55	5,390.33	—	— .....	—		5,390.33
1955-56	5,390.33	*10,763.50	Bond .....	9,909.64		6,244.19
1956-57	6,244.19	187.50	— .....	—		6,431.69
1957-58	6,431.69	187.50	— .....	—		6,619.19
1958-59	6,619.19	*10,243.75	Bond .....	*9,969.45		7,193.49
1959-60	7,193.49	300.00	Chilean Relief .....	1,000.00		6,493.49
1960-61	6,494.00	300.00	Cuba-Florida Relief .....	1,000.00		5,794.00
1961-62	5,794.00	300.00	Cuba-Florida Relief .....	500.00		5,594.00
1962-63	5,594.00	309.00	— .....	—		5,903.00
1963-64	5,903.00	388.00	Alaskan Relief .....	2,000.00		4,291.00
1964-65	4,291.00	387.00	— .....	—		4,678.00
1965-66	4,677.99	597.48	Louisiana Flood Relief .....	1,000.00		4,275.47
1966-67	4,275.47	745.86	Italian Relief .....	500.00		4,521.33
1967-68	4,521.33	640.49	— .....	—		5,161.82
1968-69	5,161.82	829.43	Mississippi Hurricane Relief .....	1,000.00		4,991.25
**C.D.			*\$10,000 Inv.			



## Chapter XX

### RETIREMENT SECURITY FOR EMPLOYEES

For 102 years the Grand Lodge of Iowa had no law requiring, or permitting, the payment of any pension to employees who had reached retirement age. In 1946 Grand Master William L. Perkins in his report commented: I have known for many years that the Grand Lodge of Iowa should provide, in some manner, for the security of the Masons who have served long and faithfully in its various departments. . . . I recommend that a plan of retirement compensation be provided by this Grand Lodge for Masons in its employ and that

an additional section be added to the Masonic Code of Iowa as follows:

This Grand Lodge shall pay a retirement annuity to all Masons in its full-time employ as hereinafter provided:

- a. Masons in the employ of the Grand Lodge who have served for a continuous period of not less than ten years and who have reached the age of seventy years, or who have sooner become incapacitated.
- b. Retirement. All employees of the Grand Lodge shall retire from service at the age of seventy years.
- c. Retirement Annuity. All Masons who have been in the employ of the Grand Lodge continuously for a period of not less than ten years shall be entitled to receive annuity payment (upon retirement) as provided herein.
- d. Amount of Annuity. The amount of the retiring annuity shall be 50 percent of the amount of salary the employee is receiving at retirement age and shall continue for his lifetime.

Later in that session the Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution as proposed by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence: "The matter is of considerable importance and we recommend that the section be not adopted at the present time but that the incoming Grand Master appoint a committee of three or five,

as he may be advised, to consider the matter and report at the next annual communication.”

In 1947, the committee above referred to, composed of Corwin R. Bennett, Charles A. Dewey, P.G.M., and Fred Turner, reported: “The committee has formed the opinion that the Grand Lodge should adopt a retirement plan.”

The plan proposed was as follows:

Section 93½. RETIREMENT SECURITY.

Any Master Mason in the employ of the Grand Lodge, who has reached the age of sixty-five (65) years, and who has been employed continuously by the Grand Lodge for a period of ten (10) years, may, by his own request, or by order of the Grand Master, be retired. On such retirement he shall be paid fifty percent (50%) of his average compensation for the last ten (10) years immediately preceding his retirement. Such retirement benefit shall cease with the payment for the month in which his death occurs.

Payment of the retirement benefits shall be made from the fund from which the retired employee's compensation was paid during his last employment before retirement.

It appears, from our information, that the cost of this plan, if adopted, at the outset would be \$3,900 per year, with an additional possible amount of \$810 per year. It

also appears probable that in the future the cost to the Grand Lodge, under this plan, would decrease rather than increase.

This of course was properly referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence who reported that the committee was of the opinion that it does not meet the situation for which it was intended. The committee recommended it be not adopted and the matter of Retirement Security be re-referred to the committee with instructions to investigate and report on the matter of Retirement Security covering all employees of the Grand Lodge. The work of the committee was continued for another year.

In 1948 the Committee on Retirement Security reported and changed the plan to include all employees (not just Masons). The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence changed the plan slightly and the Grand Lodge adopted a Retirement Security plan as follows:

Any full-time employee of the Grand Lodge who has reached the age of sixty-five (65) or more years and who has been employed continuously by the Grand Lodge for a period of ten (10) or more years may, by his or her own request or by order of the Board of Trustees, be retired; *provided*, that no elective officer shall be retired by order of the Board of Trustees. On such retirement he or she shall be paid fifty percent (50%) of his or her

average compensation for the last ten (10) years immediately preceding his or her retirement, such payments to be made in equal monthly installments. Such retirement benefit shall cease with the payment for the month in which his or her death occurs.

Payment of the retirement benefits shall be made from the fund from which the retired employee's compensation was paid during his or her last employment before retirement.

In his report to the Grand Lodge in 1950, Grand Master Don Carpenter stated that our retirement compensation provisions are unsound and uneconomical and suggested that the Trustees of the Grand Lodge and of the Grand Charity Fund sponsor a change which would place the matter on a more stable basis.

Later in the session the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence proposed legislation as follows, which was passed:

#### Section 99. WHO MAY BE RETIRED.

Any full-time employee of the Grand Lodge at the Masonic Sanitarium who has reached the age of sixty-five or more years, and who has been continuously employed by the Grand Lodge for a period of twenty or more years may, by his or her own request, or by order of the Board of Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund, be retired; and any

other full-time employee of the Grand Lodge who has reached the age of sixty-five or more years, and who has been continuously employed by the Grand Lodge for a period of twenty or more years may, by his or her own request, or by order of the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge, be retired; *provided*, that no elective officer of the Grand Lodge shall be retired on account of age or by order of any Board of Trustees; and, *further provided*, that any full-time employee who, prior to July 1, 1950, shall have been continuously employed by the Grand Lodge for a period of five or more years, and who on July 1, 1950, is not less than fifty-five or more than sixty-five years of age shall be eligible to be retired on arrival at the age of sixty-five years; *provided*, that any such employee shall have been continuously employed by the Grand Lodge for not less than ten years immediately preceding his or her retirement.

Resolved, that Section 100 of the Code be and the same is hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:

Section 100. COMPENSATION.

On such retirement all who have been employed at the Masonic Sanitarium shall be paid retired compensation computed at the rate of 3% of his or her average annual cash compensation for the last

ten years immediately preceding his or her arrival at the age of sixty-five years multiplied by the number of full calendar years that he or she has been a full-time employee; all other employees of the Grand Lodge, on such retirement, shall be paid retired compensation computed at the rate of 2% of his or her average annual cash compensation for the last ten years immediately preceding his or her arrival at the age of sixty-five years multiplied by the number of full calendar years that he or she has been a full-time employee of the Grand Lodge. Retired compensation shall not exceed 50% per annum of the average annual cash compensation for the last ten years immediately preceding the date that any such employee shall arrive at the age of sixty-five years. It shall be paid in equal monthly installments, and shall cease with the payment for the month in which the death of the retired employee occurs. No person heretofore retired shall suffer any reduction in the amount of retired compensation to which he or she was entitled prior to the effective date of this section.

The law relating to Retirement went undisturbed until 1957 when three Past Grand Masters proposed (and the Grand Lodge passed) for the Section on Compensation the following:

Section 100. COMPENSATION.

On such retirement all who have been employed at the Masonic Sanitarium shall be paid retired compensation computed at the rate of 3% of his or her average annual cash compensation for the last ten years immediately preceding his or her retirement multiplied by the number of full calendar years that he or she has been a full-time employee; all other employees of the Grand Lodge, on such retirement, shall be paid retired compensation at the rate of 2% of his or her average annual cash compensation for the last ten years immediately preceding his or her retirement multiplied by the number of full calendar years that he or she has been a full-time employee of the Grand Lodge. Retired compensation shall not exceed 50% per annum of the average annual cash compensation for the last ten years immediately preceding the date of such retirement. It shall be paid in equal monthly installments, and shall cease with the payment for the month in which the death of the retired employee occurs. No person heretofore retired shall suffer any reduction in the amount of retired compensation to which he or she was entitled prior to the effective date of this section.

In 1964-65 the law on Retirement Security again drew considerable attention and study and the committee for the same made such proposals as would be to the

best long range interests of the Grand Lodge in attracting competent employees and still be within the realm of practicality. The plan in use furnishes a solid base but the passage of time had introduced apparent inequities and there have been many innovations in pension plans since the present plan was adopted.

Therefore the Committee on Pension Revision recommended (in 1965) and the Grand Lodge adopted the following on Retirement Security:

Section 99.\*

\*Section 99b and d and Section 100a, b, and e(2) were amended in 1969.

a. Who Is Eligible. Each full-time, permanent employee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, the Masonic Sanitarium, and the Rowley Memorial Home working for a salary is eligible for membership in this Plan upon completion of five years of such service, except as provided herein.

b. Maximum Age. Any employee employed after the effective date of this plan who has attained age 60 prior to the date of employment shall not be eligible for membership.

c. Membership Retroactive. For the purpose of calculating pension payments, membership of eligible employees shall be retroactive to the first day of the month after date of employment or the first day of the month after the employee attains age 40, whichever is later.

d. Termination of Employment. Upon termination of employment, other than by death or retirement, membership in and all coverage under the plan immediately cease, except that a member who has completed ten or more years of service and who has attained age 45 shall receive, at normal retirement date, 50% of the pension earned to date of termination, based on such member's average monthly salary during the last ten years prior to termination, with an additional 5% for each additional year of service (maximum—100%).

Section 100. PENSION BENEFITS.

a. Normal Retirement Date. The normal retirement date for an employee shall be the end of the calendar month in which such employee attains age 65 or, for an employee employed prior to the effective date of this plan, the end of the calendar month in which such employee completes 20 years of service after age 65 or has attained age 70, whichever is earlier; provided, however, that no elective officer shall be retired on account of age.

b. Early Retirement. A member, including elective officers, may retire at the end of any calendar month beginning at age 60 and shall receive an actuarially reduced pension based on any actuarially recognized table adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge, and which shall commence one month after retirement.

c. Late Retirement. Where retirement of the member upon the normal retirement date would not be to the best interests of the Grand Lodge, and the member is able and willing to abide by regulations regarding working hours and conditions, the Board of Trustees employing or supervising said member may extend a special invitation from year to year to the member to remain in service after his normal retirement date, provided however that such invitation will in no case extend beyond the end of the month in which said member attains age 70.

Pension payments shall not commence until the member actually retires and, at the time, the monthly amount of pension will be the same as it was at the normal retirement date.

d. Pension Payment.

(1) A member retiring at his normal retirement date shall receive a monthly pension payment each month thereafter until his death, the first such payment to be due one month after retirement.

(2) The amount of monthly pension shall be 2% of such member's average monthly salary during the last ten years prior to his normal retirement date, multiplied by the number of years of continuous, full-time service as a member beginning 25 years prior to such member's normal retirement date and ending at retirement (maximum is 50%).

(3) For the purpose of computing such average monthly salary, an additional 25% shall be included in the salary for any month in said ten-year period in which room and board, or quarters, are furnished to such member.

e. Joint and Survivor Benefit.

(1) At any time prior to age 60, a member may elect a joint and survivor benefit beginning at retirement and which shall be in lieu of the monthly pension benefit provided in paragraph d of this section.

A member who is within five years of his normal retirement date on the effective date of this Plan may make such an election within 60 days thereafter.

A member may elect the joint and survivor benefit after five years prior to his normal retirement date and prior to retirement providing he furnishes evidence of insurability satisfactory to the Trustees of the Grand Lodge at his own expense.

(2) The Joint and Survivor Benefit shall be calculated on any actuarially recognized table adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge.

Upon the death of the member, a monthly pension benefit consisting of two-thirds of said reduced benefit will be paid to the surviving spouse during the spouse's lifetime.

(3) The member may revoke such election of the joint and survivor benefit at any time prior to retire-

ment, and if either the member or the spouse die before said member reaches normal retirement age, such election shall become null and void. A member may not revoke such election after retirement.

f. Widow's Pension Benefit.

(1) If a male member shall die prior to his retirement, his spouse shall receive a monthly widow's pension benefit, providing said member has been married to his then spouse for at least three years immediately preceding the date of his death.

(2) The widow's pension benefit shall be two-thirds of the joint and survivor benefit, as defined in paragraph e, which would have been payable to said member had he elected a joint and survivor benefit, the first such payment to be due at the end of the calendar month following death of said member.

(3) The basic pension figure shall be calculated as a percentage of such deceased employee's average monthly salary for the number of months worked as an eligible employee during the last ten years immediately prior to said member's death.

The countable years shall be calculated to the date of said member's death.

If the widow's pension benefit is less than \$10 a month the benefit may be paid annually.

(4) If a male member, who retires prior to his normal retirement date, shall die prior to attaining his

normal retirement date, a widow's pension benefit shall be paid to his spouse as provided in this section, provided however that the percentage of average monthly salary and countable years shall be calculated to the date of said retirement.

(5) Upon the death or remarriage of said spouse, monthly widow's pension benefit payments will cease.

#### Section 101. ADMINISTRATION OF PENSION PLAN.

a. This Pension Plan, subject to the right of change or termination by the Grand Lodge, shall be under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge and the action of said Board on any question involving the plan or the interpretation or application of the Plan shall be final unless modified by the Grand Lodge.

b. The cost of the benefits provided by this Pension Plan shall be paid from the general funds of the Grand Lodge.

c. A Pension Reserve Fund shall be established to which the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge shall recommend such annual appropriations be deposited as said Board shall deem proper.

The Pension Reserve Fund shall be used for the payment of benefits provided by this Pension Plan and for no other purpose; provided however that the Board of Trustees may arrange payment of benefits through an insured pension plan the cost of which to be paid from

this Pension Reserve Fund, in whole or in part.

d. Investment of Reserve.

The Pension Reserve Fund shall be deposited or invested by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge.

In acquiring, investing, reinvesting, exchanging, retaining, selling and managing the property of the Pension Reserve Fund, the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances then prevailing, which men of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for the purpose of speculation but with regard to the permanent disposition of their funds, considering the probable income, as well as the probable safety of their capital. Within the limitations of the foregoing standard, the Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge is authorized to acquire and retain every kind of property and every kind of investment, specifically including, but not by way of limitation, bonds, debentures, and other corporate obligations, and stocks and shares, preferred or common, which men of prudence, discretion, and intelligence acquire or retain for their own account.

e. The Board of Trustees of the Grand Lodge may at any time adopt a different basis of valuation on any recognized table of mortality, or may adopt any accepted method of funding the pension liability of this Plan.

f. Change or Termination.

The Grand Lodge of Iowa may at any time change or terminate this Plan, but no such change or termination may affect in any way the amount or terms of any pension benefits already provided prior to the then current calendar year, or the payment of benefits arising out of death or retirement occurring prior to the date of such change.

Shortly after Grand Lodge in 1968 the Grand Lodge Trustees, by Section 101 of the Code, funded the retirement plan with the Bankers Life Company of Des Moines. The contract with the company required only very minor changes from the provisions in the Code. These changes were necessary in order to meet requirements of the Internal Revenue Service.



## Chapter XXI

### A FOUNDATION STONE FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

The 1953 Proceedings reports the gift and its acceptance of a valuable addition to our Masonic Museum.

A stone about 3 by 6 by 8 inches, taken from the foundation of the White House while it was being remodeled recently, was made available to each Grand Lodge in the United States, through the fraternal courtesy of the then President, Harry S. Truman, who delegated the distribution of these stones to the Grand

Lodge of the District of Columbia. The stone for Iowa with a personal letter from the donor was received by the Grand Secretary. Brother Forrest P. Hagan was asked to make the formal presentation and give a brief resume of its significance.

Brother Hagan included in his comments the following:

It is my pleasure this morning to appear before you as the ambassador from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. I am sure that you as well as I have been very conscious during this Grand Communication of the part that our great Fraternity has played in history. I do not have the time this morning to rehearse for you as many of the details in the early history of our country as I would like, but I do want to call to your attention some outstanding facts.

You are acquainted with the part that our Most Illustrious George Washington played in the forming of our country and formation of the policies of Freemasonry in this country. You are also acquainted with his part in the forming of our federal city, known as Washington, D. C. He employed a young architect by the name of James Hoban to build the house of the President, which later became known to you and me as the White House. This brother, after finishing the White House, was employed as the architect to build the National Capitol.

James Hoban came to this country from Ireland and brought with him many of the craftsmen from that country. After and while building in Washington, D. C., this devout Catholic with his Catholic brethren petitioned the Grand Lodge of Maryland to form their own lodge in the federal city. The request was granted and they formed Lodge No. 15, which later became Federal Lodge No. 1, the first lodge in Washington, D. C., when that Grand Lodge was formed.

On September 12, 1793, they received the Charter. Six days later he and his brethren marched in the ceremony and helped in the laying of the cornerstone of our White House.

You all know that thirteen of our Presidents have been Masons down through the years. Many of the members of Congress are now members of our great Order as were several of the framers of the Constitution. When, after weeks of bickering and arguing, it appeared that their attempts were in vain, that great patriot, Benjamin Franklin, in that convention in 1787 spoke as follows: "I have lived for a long time (81 years); and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of man. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that 'Except the Lord

build the house, they labour in vain that built it.' I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall proceed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel: we shall be divided by our little, partial, local interests; . . . I therefore beg leave to move that henceforth prayers, imploring the assistance of Heaven and its blessing on our deliberations, be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to business; . . ."

My brethren, does that not sound Masonic? We realize the hand that Masonry played in the formation of this great country of ours.

And now, coming down to a more modern history, you recall that some two years ago they began to rebuild or reconstruct our present White House as the walls and the ceilings and the floors were literally falling in. And so they began that reconstruction. They removed all the inside walls, everything but the outside, the plumbing, the wiring, and what have you; and while those men were laboring in the tearing apart of that, preparatory to the construction of the new White House, they were inspecting the foundations of that building and they noticed in the stones of that foundation some very peculiar markings. They immediately called the then President, Most Worshipful Harry Truman, Past Grand Master of Masons in Missouri, and he too crawled down under the White House

with these workmen and immediately recognized these peculiar markings on these stones as Masons' marks.

I am sure that to you who are Royal Arch Masons you understand about Masons' marks. I have read about them for many years but until this piece, which it is my privilege to present to the Grand Lodge of Iowa this morning, came into my hands I never had had the privilege of seeing a genuine Mason's mark. Again delving back into history, I need not remind you that as the workman worked on his bench and prepared the stone for building, and when he finished he would place his mark on the back of that stone; his mark in turn was registered with the Secretary, and that is how he drew his wages at the end of the day.

And so it is my privilege and pleasure to present to the Grand Lodge this morning one of those stones that was taken from the foundation of the old White House bearing a Mason's mark, and this is to be the permanent property of this Grand Lodge.

Most Worshipful Sir, I present it to you with great pleasure and wish to read to you the letter from Brother Truman that came with it, framed in wood from the old White House:

*Most Worshipful Sir:*

*Through the good offices of an ambassador from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, which is Masonically supreme in the Capitol of*

*the Nation, I place in your hands a stone taken from the walls of the White House during its just-completed rebuilding. A sufficient number of these stones, each with a Masonic symbol upon it, was discovered to give one to each Grand Lodge in the United States. These evidences of the number of members of the Craft who built the President's official residence so intimately aligns Freemasonry with the formation and the founding of our Government that I believe your Grand Lodge will cherish this link between the Fraternity and the Government of the Nation, of which the White House is a symbol.*

*Sincerely and fraternally yours,*

*Harry S. Truman.*

COMMENTS BY GRAND MASTER J. ELLITT GRAYSON

It was my privilege to be at the Grand Masters' Conference in Washington, D. C., and see one of these stones there on display. It was also my privilege a month later to visit the Grand Lodge of Minnesota when one of these stones was presented to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. Since February, I have gone around the state mentioning these stones and the great part that these stones have played in the symbolic foundation of our Government, and many of you brethren have heard me speak about it. So, brethren, as your Grand Master, I accept this stone from Past Grand

Master Harry S. Truman, and I accept it in the name of all you good brothers of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. When the new library is built, brethren, I assure that it will have a permanent place in a niche of the walls of the library.

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It does and may be seen in our Museum.



## Chapter XXII

### CHANGES IN LODGES

- A. Extinct Lodges by Number
- B. Extinct Lodges by Name
- C. Lodges Added by Number

#### A. EXTINCT LODGES BY NUMBER

- 126 Magnolia (Magnolia)—Consolidated with Valley Lodge No. 232 (Missouri Valley), March 21, 1966
- 172 National (Farmersburg) — Consolidated with Clayton Lodge No. 70 (Monona), September 13, 1962
- 188 Naphtali (South English) — Consolidated with Webb Lodge No. 182 (Sigourney), December 3, 1963
- 231 Social (Millersburg)—Consolidated with Triumph Lodge No. 479 (North English), November 10, 1960
- 237 Arcturus (Ossian)—Consolidated with Brotherly Love Lodge No. 204 (Postville), April 3, 1962

- 238 White Marble (North Liberty)—Consolidated with Iowa City Lodge No. 4 (Iowa City), July 18, 1955
- 277 Perfect Union (Thornburg) — Consolidated with Universe Lodge No. 242 (What Cheer), November 14, 1967
- 287 Sharon (Victor)—Consolidated with Corinthian Lodge No. 174 (Brooklyn), January 2, 1963
- 348 Right Angle (Conway) — Consolidated with Tremont Lodge No. 343 (Lenox), March 21, 1968
- 351 Standard (Waucoma)—Consolidated with West Union Lodge No. 69 (West Union), June 12, 1963
- 384 Morning Light (Manson)—Consolidated with Ashlar Lodge No. 111 (Fort Dodge), November 11, 1968
- 390 Lake (Wall Lake)—Consolidated with Laurel Lodge No. 517 (Lake View), November 3, 1967
- 441 Guardian (Defiance)—Consolidated with Sardius Lodge No. 444 (Irwin), January 14, 1960
- 449 Beulah (Adair)—Consolidated with Purity Lodge No. 283 (Casey), February 5, 1965
- 473 Mutual (Swan)—Consolidated with Pleasant Lodge No. 128 (Pleasantville), January 7, 1963
- 503 Progressive (Bancroft) — Consolidated with Kossuth Lodge No. 540 (Burt), May 15, 1958
- 516 Victoria (Riverside)—Consolidated with Abner Lodge No. 535 (Lone Tree), October 11, 1966
- 526 Perfect Square (Hiteman) — Consolidated with Astor Lodge No. 505 (Albia), August 14, 1961
- 552 Larch (Larchwood)—Consolidated with Border Lodge No. 406 (Rock Rapids), May 27, 1947
- 557 Granite (Thornton)—Consolidated with Pearl Lodge No. 426 (Sheffield), January 9, 1964
- 573 Hazel (Peru)—Consolidated with Evening Star Lodge No. 43 (Winterset), April 3, 1964
- 599 Rock River (Doon)—Consolidated with Golden Sheaf Lodge No. 605 (Rock Valley), November 3, 1966
- 604 Sunset (Royal) — Consolidated with Evening Shade Lodge No. 312 (Spencer), November 13, 1967

- 617 Antioch (Radcliffe)—Charter surrendered, May 17, 1969  
 623 Liberty (Kanawha)—Consolidated with Darius Lodge  
 No. 431 (Britt), November 12, 1962  
 653 Upright (Melvin)—Charter surrendered, January 3, 1949  
 655 Good Hope (Dumont) — Consolidated with Vulcan  
 Lodge No. 498 (Bristow), December 7, 1961

## B. EXTINCT LODGES BY NAME

Name	No.	Town	County
Antioch	617	Radcliffe	Hardin
Arcturus	237	Ossian	Winneshieck
Beulah	449	Adair	Adair
Good Hope	655	Dumont	Butler
Granite	557	Thornton	Cerro Gordo
Guardian	441	Defiance	Shelby
Hazel	573	Peru	Madison
Lake	390	Wall Lake	Sac
Larch	552	Larchwood	Lyon
Liberty	623	Kanawaha	Hancock
Magnolia	126	Magnolia	Harrison
Morning Light	384	Manson	Calhoun
Mutual	473	Swan	Marion
Naphtali	188	South English	Keokuk
National	172	Farmersburg	Clayton
Perfect Square	526	Hiteman	Monroe
Perfect Union	277	Thornburg	Keokuk
Progressive	503	Bancroft	Kossuth
Right Angle	348	Conway	Taylor
Rock River	599	Doon	Lyon
Sharon	287	Victor	Iowa
Social	231	Millersburg	Iowa
Standard	351	Waucoma	Fayette
Sunset	604	Royal	Clay
Upright	653	Melvin	Osceola
Victoria	516	Riverside	Washington
White Marble	238	North Liberty	Johnson

### C. LODGES ADDED BY NUMBER

No.	Name of Lodge	Town	County	Dispensation Granted	Charter Granted
656	New Century	Des Moines	Polk	Oct. 17, 1945	June 12, 1946
657	South Gate	Bloomfield Township (now Des Moines)	Polk	March 22, 1947	June 11, 1947
658	Union Park	Des Moines	Polk	March 26, 1947	June 11, 1947
659	Philbrook	Davenport	Scott	Sept. 10, 1947	June 9, 1948
660	Daylight	Des Moines	Polk	Nov. 16, 1948	June 15, 1949
	Research Lodge No. 1	Iowa City	Johnson	July 31, 1950	June 10, 1952
661	West Gate	Des Moines	Polk	March 21, 1952	June 10, 1952
662	North Riverside	Sioux City	Woodbury	Sept. 11, 1952	June 10, 1953
663	Woodbury	Sioux City	Woodbury	Dec. 14, 1953	June 9, 1954
664	Hamilton	Bettendorf	Scott	May 8, 1956	Sept. 21, 1956
665	Bruce	Cedar Rapids	Linn	April 13, 1966	Sept. 22, 1966
	Research Lodge No. 2	Des Moines	Polk	June 15, 1967	Sept. 19, 1968
666	Kingston	Cedar Rapids	Linn	May 11, 1967	Sept. 20, 1967
667	William Reynolds	Iowa City	Johnson	Feb. 8, 1968	Sept. 19, 1968
668	Clarksville	Iowa City	Johnson	April 9, 1968	Sept. 19, 1968
669	Builders	Hudson	Black Hawk	Nov. 15, 1968	Sept. 18, 1969



## Chapter XXIII

### MONTHLY RETURNS FROM LODGES

One of the major and highly important tasks of a lodge Secretary is to supply the Grand Secretary with information as prescribed by Grand Lodge Law. Not the least of this type of information from the lodges are the reports commonly referred to as Returns. These Returns catalogue all the changes involving each and every member of the lodge which may take place periodically. Since income which enables the Grand Lodge to meet its obligations comes from dues from each member and a fraction of the fee for each initiate, these

Returns enable the Grand Secretary to determine the amount each lodge owes the Grand Lodge and to bill the lodge accordingly. The need for accuracy and persistence is evident and only by careful checking of the information thus obtained is the Grand Secretary able to report accurately to the Grand Lodge as he is required by law to do.

Time is required to prepare any report, and the more detailed the Return, the more laborious and demanding is the task. For the first 24 years of the life of the Grand Lodge, the fiscal year to be covered by the information required on the Returns ended on May 31 and the number of lodges to be processed increased from a start of four to 188. Since Grand Lodge was held early in June, at which time reports to Grand Lodge were to be ready, the problem of sufficient time available in which to prepare the Grand Secretary's report, at least, became increasingly annoying and in 1868 the ending of the fiscal year was changed to April 30. This gave the Grand Secretary an additional month in which to process the Returns and prepare his report to Grand Lodge.

Between 1868 and 1884, the number of lodges increased from 188 to 437, over 130 percent. Obviously the work in this regard in the Grand Secretary's office would correspondingly increase and in 1884 the Grand Lodge changed the fiscal year to correspond with the calendar year and thus it has remained ever since.

The passage of time has seen the number of lodges and total membership go from four with 101 members in 1844 to a high in 1956 of 95,155 in 549 lodges. Now the membership is down to 83,728 in 532 lodges. To check, verify, and tabulate for reportable form all the membership changes that take place in the course of a year is a tremendous task and then most of the information would be several months old.

Several years ago some Grand Lodges had abandoned the yearly Return plan and had adopted the plan of submitting Returns on a monthly basis. They maintained it increased accuracy not only in the local lodge records but also in the reports sent to the Grand Secretary's office and such a plan distributed the involved work over a twelve-month period as opposed to crowding it into a few weeks after January 1.

Some of us became convinced this would be a good plan for Iowa, so late in 1963 the Grand Secretary was authorized to ask 20 lodges to cooperate in the experiment and use monthly Returns for 1964. Of course such a drastic experiment had its shortcomings, but its merits were evident to most. Some of the Secretaries were enthusiastic for the plan but some opposed its use. However, the good qualities of the plan dictated that the experiment be tried another year with an increase in the number of lodges participating. So in 1965, 40 lodges participated and some smoothness in proce-

ture developed. In 1966 the plan and its results were thoroughly examined with the result that the Committee on Lodges Chartered and Under Dispensation introduced legislation in Grand Lodge to go into effect January 1, 1967, calling for monthly Returns from lodges. The proposal received a majority vote and for 1967, 1968, and 1969, Iowa has been on monthly Returns.

Frankly, the plan has not made perfect Secretaries out of the brethren holding the jobs. It has, however, distributed the work load over the 12 months in the Grand Lodge offices and for the local Secretaries allowed mistakes to be corrected earlier, provided current information on members, and made it possible for each lodge to know the amount it owed in Grand Lodge Dues at the end of any month.



## Chapter XXIV

### ASSOCIATIONS —

### MASONIC SERVICE AND MASONIC RELIEF

#### MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

The Masonic Service Association came into existence in Cedar Rapids in November, 1919, a preliminary discussion meeting having been held in the same city a year earlier. At both these meetings, Grand Master George L. Schoonover (1918-19, Iowa) was a leading figure.

With the exception of 1927 to 1936, when Iowa was not a member of the Association, she has paid her per capita dues each year. The present rate for dues for membership is based on the number of Masons belonging to the subordinate lodges and is as follows: Three cents each on the first 25,000 members, two cents each on the next 50,000 members, and one cent each on all over 75,000. In 1952 the Grand Lodge of Iowa also paid \$3,500 to the Association for its hospital visitation program and has continued to do so each year since.

The Association is an effort at union in a national emergency and "came into being as an insurance policy, issued to American Freemasonry to make certain that when disaster came, the Fraternity would not be helpless to give from its great heart to those in need."

#### MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

The Masonic Relief Association was organized in 1885 at St. Louis, Missouri, and Iowa became a member at the Grand Lodge Communication in Boone in 1896. Dues were at the rate of one-half cent per member for each Mason in the state and Iowa's first check was for \$132, based on a membership of 26,103.

The present yearly rate for membership is at three-fourths of a cent on the first 25,000 members and one-third cent on all over 25,000. Iowa uses this organi-

zation to help with investigations of various kinds wherever such help is needed.

Earl B. Delzell, Iowa Grand Master 1960-61, was President of this Association for the biennium of 1955-57.



## Chapter XXV

### THE ROWLEY MEMORIAL TRUST

One of the most attractive gifts ever to come to the Grand Lodge of Iowa was provided for in the Will of Brother Herman L. Rowley. He early lived at Perry but in his adult life moved to Oklahoma and engaged in the banking business at Cordell. He amassed, what is to most of us, a sizeable portion of this world's goods and retired to California. He was never a member of an Iowa lodge, but he had acquired several excellent farms in central Iowa.

In his report in 1951, Grand Master Glen G. Radcliffe had this to say:

On March 19, 1951, I was advised by the Secretary of Otley Lodge No. 299 of Perry of the death of Brother Herman L. Rowley, a former resident of Perry, at Los Angeles on February 19, 1951.

Brother Rowley left a Last Will and Testament which has been admitted to probate in Los Angeles County, California, and in the District Court of Webster County, Iowa.

Among the terms and conditions of this Last Will and Testament of Brother Rowley is the following:

*I devise and bequeath all the residue to the Grand Masonic Lodge of the State of Iowa to be used as follows: \$150,000.00 to be used for the construction and equipment of a Masonic Home in Perry, Iowa, for worthy and needy Masons in good standing, to be known as the Rowley Memorial Home. The balance for investment and income therefrom to be used to assist in maintaining and operation of the Home. In making this gift to the Grand Lodge I direct that it shall be supervised and handled by officers of the Grand Lodge of Iowa together with the officers of the local lodge of Perry, who shall act as trustee. It is my desire that this Home be operated as a non-profit institution and any charges made to occupants shall be sufficient only to maintain and operate the Home.*

*In the event the Grand Lodge of Iowa has not made formal plans and are ready to proceed with the building as directed in three years after the death of my wife, then I direct that the money that they have or will receive as aforesaid shall revert to the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma with a Home to be built at Cordell, Oklahoma, the Home to be built, supervised and controlled, the same as mentioned heretofore.*

Your Grand Master and the Board of Trustees of this Grand Lodge have made as thorough an investigation of the estate of Brother Rowley as the short time remaining before the communication of this Grand Lodge would permit and it has been found that the estimated gross value of the estate is from \$600,000.00 to \$800,000.00.

\* \* \*

So involved and so complicated is this matter it would seem wise to your Grand Master that further time should be taken in making additional investigation, and before coming to a definite decision about accepting or rejecting the terms of the Will that all or most of the problems involved should be fully determined. It is my suggestion and I so recommend that the whole matter be left in the hands of the Board of Trustees of this Grand Lodge to make a further and more complete investigation of all matters relative to the Will of Brother Rowley and that the Board of

Trustees be given, by this Grand Lodge, full power and authority to act in the premises.

In 1952, George E. Farmer, Deputy Grand Secretary, and as an attorney assisting to bring the Rowley matter to some kind of fruition, representing the Grand Lodge Trustees, gave the report to Grand Lodge as follows:

WHEREAS, Brother Herman L. Rowley died February 19, 1951, at Los Angeles, California, leaving a Last Will and Testament in which he bequeathed the residue of his estate estimated at a gross of \$750,000.00 to be used as follows:

*I devise and bequeath all the residue to the Grand Masonic Lodge of the State of Iowa to be used as follows: \$150,000.00 to be used for the construction and equipment of a Masonic Home in Perry, Iowa, for worthy and needy Masons in good standing, to be known as the Rowley Memorial Home. The balance for investment and income therefrom to be used to assist in maintaining and operation of the Home.*

*In the event the Grand Lodge of Iowa has not made formal plans and are ready to proceed with the building as directed in three years after the death of my wife, then I direct that the money that they have or will receive as aforesaid shall revert to the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma with a Home to be built at Cordell, Oklahoma, the Home to be built, supervised and controlled, the same as mentioned heretofore.*

AND WHEREAS, in December 1951 six heirs filed a petition in the Superior Court at Los Angeles, California, alleging that by the terms of the Will the said Herman Rowley left his property to his wife Myrtie E. Rowley in the event that she survived him, and that by reason of the death of the said Myrtie E. Rowley prior to the death of the said Herman L. Rowley, his Last Will and Testament insofar as it purports to dispose of his estate is therefore invalid and of no force and effect; and further asking that the persons named be declared to be the heirs of the said Herman L. Rowley and that his estate be distributed to them.

AND WHEREAS, said matter was set for hearing on May 26, 1952, but in the meantime additional heirs were discovered, and they have been served with notice to appear on the 30th day of June 1952; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F.&A.M., that the question of accepting or rejecting the provisions of the Last Will and Testament of Herman L. Rowley, deceased, or of making a compromise settlement of the present litigation be left with the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F.&A.M., with full power and authority to act in the premises; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F.&A.M., make a report of their action in this

matter at the next regular communication.

In 1953 Brother Farmer again reported on the Rowley bequest in detail:

Brother Herman L. Rowley died February 19, 1951, at Los Angeles, California, leaving a Last Will and Testament which provided in part as follows:

*"In event my wife, Myrtie Rowley, shall survive me, then and in that event I hereby give and bequeath all my property both real and personal of any kind or nature to her. I direct that the Bank of Amer. Trust and Savings Assn. of Los Angeles, Cal., to act as Trustee, who shall keep and manage the property and use the income and as much of the principal as is necessary to keep her in the position in life to which she is accustomed to."*

Thereafter he provided for her burial and directed Mr. Ira Johnson at Perry, Iowa, to manage the farms in Iowa. The Will then continued:

*"I also desire that in Iowa the farms be kept intact and not disposed of until the death of my wife. At her death I direct the Trustee to sell and convert into cash all real and personal property, making the final disbursements and close the estate and close the trust."*

He then made various bequests amounting to \$50,000 and further provided:

*"I devise and bequeath all the residue to the Grand Masonic Lodge of the State of Iowa to be used as*

*follows: \$150,000.00 to be used for the construction and equipment of a Masonic Home in Perry, Iowa, for worthy and needy Masons in good standing, to be known as the Rowley Memorial Home. The balance for investment and income therefrom to be used to assist in maintaining and operation of the Home. In making this gift to the Grand Lodge I direct that it shall be supervised and handled by officers of the Grand Lodge of Iowa together with the officers of the local lodge of Perry, who shall act as Trustee. It is my desire that this Home be operated as a non-profit institution and any charges made to occupants shall be sufficient only to maintain and operate the Home.*

*In the event the Grand Lodge of Iowa has not made formal plans and ready to proceed with the building as directed in three years after the death of my wife, then I direct that the money that they have or will receive aforesaid will revert to the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma with a Home to be built at Cordell, Oklahoma, the Home to be built, supervised and controlled, the same as mentioned heretofore."*

Myrtie Rowley predeceased the said Herman L. Rowley, she having died on October 31, 1950.

The Will was probated in California and settlement of the estate proceeded. Our attorney in California states that the gross estate for distribution will amount to about \$700,000.

In December of 1951 certain heirs filed a petition in the Superior Court at Los Angeles, California, alleging that by the terms of the Will the said Herman Rowley left his property to his wife, Myrtie Rowley, in the event that she survived him and further alleging that by reason of the death of the wife of the said Herman L. Rowley prior to his death the Last Will and Testament of the said Herman L. Rowley insofar as it purported to dispose of his estate was invalid and of no force and effect, and further asking that the court determine who are the heirs and who are entitled to distribution of the estate.

To this the Grand Lodge replied that the Will provided a simple and complete plan for distribution of the estate to the testator's wife, and at her death, with remainder to the various legatees including the Grand Lodge; that the Will be construed as a whole; that it be upheld and intestacy avoided.

The matter was finally set for hearing before the Court on the question of law as to whether the Will became invalid and of no force and effect because of the fact that Myrtie Rowley, the wife of Herman L. Rowley, predeceased the said Herman L. Rowley. Written briefs and arguments were filed, and on February 2, 1953, oral arguments were heard by the Court. Thereafter and on March 9, 1953, the Court signed a decree holding in favor of the Grand Lodge and against

the heirs which in part provided:

“2 (c) the rest, residue and remainder of said estate to the Grand Lodge of Iowa of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons subject to defeasance in favor of Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma as hereinafter in paragraph (4) provided.

“(4) that the residue distributable to the Grand Lodge of Iowa of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons as hereinbefore provided in subparagraph (c) of paragraph (2) is to be used by said lodge as follows: The sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) is to be used for the construction and equipment of a Masonic Home in Perry, Iowa, for worthy and needy Masons in good standing, to be known as the Rowley Memorial Home. The balance of said residue is to be invested and the income therefrom is to be used in the maintenance and operation of said Home. That said Home shall be operated as a non-profit institution and any charges made to the occupants shall not exceed that which is sufficient to maintain and operate said Home. That said Home shall be supervised and said investments managed by officers of the said Grand Lodge of Iowa, together with the officers of the local Masonic Lodge of Perry, Iowa.

“That the bequest and devise of said residue and remainder as hereinbefore set forth is subject to de-

feasance as follows: That if said Grand Lodge of Iowa of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons has not made formal plans and is not ready to proceed with the building of said Home as hereinbefore provided, within three (3) years from the date of death of the testator, provided the funds are available to said Lodge for that purpose within that period of time, and if the funds for that purpose are not available within said three (3) year period, then within a reasonable time after the funds for such purpose have become available to said Lodge, then and in that event said residue and remainder goes to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a Masonic Home to be located in Cordell, Oklahoma, for the same purpose and to be operated, supervised, and investments managed by the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma and the local Masonic Lodge of Cordell, Oklahoma, in the same manner as was to be done by the Grand Lodge of Iowa and the local Lodge of Perry as regards the devise and bequest to the said Grand Lodge of Iowa. The Court reserves the right to determine said reasonable time in the event said funds are not available within said three (3) year period and the said Grand Lodges disagree in that regard."

Our attorney in California advises us that the heirs have appealed the matter to the Supreme Court of the

State of California and it may be a year before a decision is given.

In view of the foregoing I present the following resolution:

#### RESOLUTION

*Be it resolved* by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F.& A.M., that the question of accepting or rejecting the provisions of the Last Will and Testament of Herman L. Rowley, deceased, or of making a compromise settlement of the present litigation, be left with the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F.&A.M., with full power to act in the premises; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F.&A.M., make a report of their action in this matter at the next regular communication of the Grand Lodge.

In 1954 the Rowley report to the Grand Lodge was again given by Brother Farmer.

It was in the form of a resolution and added nothing new but charged the Grand Lodge Trustees to accept or reject the terms of the Will or make a compromise settlement and report at the next regular communication of this Grand Lodge.

During these years of waiting there was considerable speculation as to whether the Grand Lodge of Iowa would, or even ought to, accept this very alluring gift. Establish a Masonic Home in Iowa? Such a prospect

held an uneasy foreboding for many Iowa Masons. The spectre of exorbitant costs haunted them. Too, for many years Iowa had operated its Masonic Sanitarium where brethren could receive care not available to them in their own homes. Also, if care could be provided them in their homes, the resources of the Field Aid Fund were available to them. How much farther could, and should, the Fraternity go?

But in 1955, William A. Westfall, P.G.M., reporting for the Grand Lodge Trustees, presented a detailed Resolution and Trust Agreement occupying seven pages of the Proceedings at the conclusion of which the Grand Lodge adopted the report and thereby accepted the bequest as provided in the Will. Just over \$750,000 in stocks, bonds, cash, and a small amount of jewelry came to the Grand Lodge.

The first Trustees of the Rowley Memorial Trust were two representing Otley Lodge at Perry, Charles S. Johnson and George H. Sackett, and representing the Grand Lodge were Grand Master Ray R. Douglass, Deputy Grand Secretary Ralph E. Whipple, and Senior Grand Warden Dawson E. Grim.

Minor modifications of the Trust Agreement have been adopted through the years, by full approval of the Dallas County Court. The Rowley Memorial Masonic Home was erected with the cornerstone being laid by Grand Master Edwin L. Lunde on July 24, 1957, and

the dedication with Grand Master Glenn A. Foster presiding, taking place on June 7, 1958. Perhaps the most notable change in the Trust Agreement, adopted in 1961, permitted wives of worthy and needy Masons in good standing also to be admitted.

At Grand Lodge in 1964 and again in 1965 amendments were introduced to raise Grand Lodge Dues \$1.00 to finance an addition to the Rowley Home, but the proposals were defeated. In 1966 the proposal was again before the Grand Lodge and this time was passed. Work started promptly on erecting the addition and on July 24, 1968, the addition was dedicated by Grand Master R. Kenneth Miller and his officers. The building will now accommodate 76 individuals.



## Chapter XXVI

### GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The prime project of the Association, the George Washington Memorial, the Temple on Shooters Hill, has had the attention of world-wide Masons for nearly 60 years. Support is by contributions from Grand Lodges, other Masonic bodies, organizations, and individuals and as of February 22, 1968, contributions from Masonic bodies were as follows:

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS FROM GRAND LODGES  
AND OTHER MASONIC BODIES  
TO FEBRUARY 22, 1969

Grand Lodges .....		\$8,713,632.62
Royal Arch .....	\$ 55,563.34	
General Grand Chapter, R.A.M. ....	10,500.00	66,063.34
Council .....	4,595.50	
General Grand Council, R.&S.M. ....	7,000.00	11,595.50
Commandery .....	16,778.25	
Grand Encampment, K.T. ....	20,000.00	36,778.25
Scottish Rite Bodies .....	58,780.00	
Supreme Council, A.A.S.R.S.J. ....	205,100.00	263,880.00
Scottish Rite Bodies .....	12,250.00	
Supreme Council, A.A.S.R.N.J. ....	280,000.00	292,250.00
Shrine .....	3,860.00	
Imperial Council, A.A.O.N.M.S. ....	178,000	181,860.00
Grotto .....	20.00	
Supreme Council, M.O.V.P.E.R. ....	29,100.00	29,120.00
Order of DeMolay .....	970.00	
Grand Council Order of DeMolay ..	22,000.00	22,970.00
Order of Eastern Star .....	6,865.00	
General Grand Chapter, O.E.S. ....	4,000.00	10,865.00
Masonic Clubs .....	1,493.20	
National League of Masonic Clubs ..	1,300.00	2,793.20
Alaska .....		100.00
Canal Zone .....		200.00
Philippines .....		1,549.37
Supreme Forest, Tall Cedars of Lebanon .....		1,000.00
Provincial Grand Lodge R. O. of Scotland .....		100.00

Grand Imperial, R. C. of Constantine . . . . .	100.00
Supreme Guardian Council, Job's Daughters . . . . .	4,469.90
National Sojourners, Inc. . . . .	100.00
Convent General, Knights York Cross of Honour . . . . .	900.00
Knight Masons of Ireland, Grand Council . . . . .	100.00
Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis . . . . .	100.00
American Canadian Prov. G.L. of Germany . . . . .	500.00
G. L. of Germany . . . . .	500.00
G. L. Nationale France . . . . .	100.00
	<hr/>
	\$9,641,627.18

The endowment goal is \$15 million in the hope that income from it will be sufficient to provide for maintenance of the memorial. Endowment builds rather slowly and presently is only at less than three million.

Iowa, over the years, has contributed well over \$300,000 to the Memorial. One of the regular ways was collecting one dollar on each initiate.

In 1963, Grand Master Ralph C. Brown introduced into Grand Lodge a resolution (which was passed) for the Grand Lodge to pay into the Memorial Fund one dollar per Iowa member at the rate of 25 cents per year and thereby cancel the one dollar per initiate payment. Payments were made as follows:

1964 . . . . .	\$22,143.00
1965 . . . . .	21,826.00
1966 . . . . .	21,533.25
1967 . . . . .	21,163.87
	<hr/>
Total . . . . .	\$86,666.12

C. D. Jory, Iowa Grand Master in 1943-44, served the Association for fifteen years. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 1946 to succeed C. C. Clark, P.G.M. In 1951 he was elected to the Executive Committee and in 1952 was elected Association President, holding this office until February 22, 1961, when he declined re-election.



## Chapter XXVII

### THE HUTCHINSON RING

From the 1949 report of Grand Master J. Guy Swartslander:

*At the beginning of my term of office I was presented with the "Hutchinson Ring," which has been the custom for some thirty-five years. Through so many years the ring has become thin and fragile and I believe should be preserved in the archives. I, therefore, recommend that this custom be discontinued and the Grand Secretary instructed to place the ring in a suitable container in the Grand Lodge Library, with a placard attached explaining the history of the ring.*

This succinct paragraph brought to a close a quaint but popular custom instituted in 1913 by the retiring Grand Master, William Hutchinson. In presenting the ring to his successor, newly-elected Grand Master Frank B. Whitaker, Brother Hutchinson said:

*For many years I have been closely connected with the administration and management of Masonry in this state, during which time I have been honored far beyond merit and this Grand Lodge is very near and dear to me, and, at this time, to step down and out of the office of Grand Master means much to me. Therefore, as my last official act, I want to present to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Iowa this signet ring of pure gold.*

*To you, Most Worshipful Brother, I give it in trust. May it be helpful to you; may it ever be a light and a lamp to your conscience in the discharge of every Masonic duty; may it be worn, my brother, during your term of office to stimulate you to higher aims, to nobler thoughts, and greater deeds in behalf of the fraternity, and may the love and affection which has characterized the body of Past Grand Masters and the craft continue through all the years to come and bind us by ties which can only be severed by death.*

*Looking down upon this Grand Lodge at this moment I feel that within this golden circle I hear the footsteps of fifty thousand Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction marching before you in review, yea more;*

*under this golden arch whereon is engraved the square and compass in prophetic vision I see fifty thousand just and upright Masons pass thereunder in perfect obedience to your will and pleasure. I place it upon your finger as my last official act to be worn by you during your term of office and by you transmitted to your successor, and it is my prayer that you and your successors will ever keep it and wear it through all the future years without stain or tarnish.*

Brother Whitaker assured the brethren he would endeavor to keep it free from stain or tarnish by any act of his during his term of service, and at its close he would transmit it to his successor in office, in accordance with the wish of the donor.

This interesting and brief ceremony of "passing the ring" was repeated 35 times to that many newly installed Grand Masters over a period of 36 years. Due to the war restriction on conventions, Brother William L. Perkins served as Grand Master in 1944-45 and 1945-46.

Following the recommendation of Brother Swartzlander, the ring was placed in the Masonic Museum of the Grand Lodge Library Building and properly identified.



## Chapter XXVIII

### THE IOWA MASONIC LIBRARY

The great storehouse of Masonic knowledge, the accumulation of which first received the approval and support of the Grand Lodge in 1845, even though denominated in the Masonic Code of Iowa as Grand Lodge Library, is popularly referred to as the Iowa Masonic Library. It is under the care and control of employees of the Grand Lodge, but its use is open to any Iowa Mason. Much has been written in the past about this great project of Iowa Masonry and the part it has played in furnishing information about Masonry

not only to Iowa Masons but also to many individual Masons outside the state. The world renown of this Library which was achieved in the first half century of its existence has remained undiminished over past decades and is true also over the last 30 years covered by this brief history.

It is a specialized Library, concentrating on Masonry and, as from the beginning, constant search is being made for Masonic books, a copy of which we do not have. It is a rarity to find such a one and we conscientiously try to keep new material on our shelves, of which there is a relatively small amount being published. In the past 30 years the appropriation for "books and binding" has not been increased. In spite of this, it is very seldom that we are unable to comply with a borrower's request.

#### CARE OF THE BOOKS

Books deteriorate with use. Some cannot be replaced with new ones and as these become worn they must be repaired. Sometimes this involves an entirely new binding and this must be done by a professional book-binder. Minor repairs, such as re-gluing a cover, can be rather simply done and our own Library workers, with some care and practice, can do this task. This is the type of book care with which they were behind 75 years ago and it was never caught up and the same has been true the last 30 years. It is an endless task.

The location of our building makes book care a problem. In front of the Grand Lodge Building is a broad street where it is estimated 30,000 vehicles use it in the ordinary 24-hour period. Dusting books is a never-ending chore.

#### CIRCULATION OF BOOKS

Masons, generally, are not avid readers. While many of our volumes are not available for sending through the mail, many are, but users are limited. We do not allow books to leave our building if we have only one of a kind, or if it is a part of a set. Even then there is scarcely mail going out that does not contain at least one package of books going to a reader.

Many of our readers come to us and make use of our facilities. These users are often of a research mind and many stay a number of days. The worth of the Library, user-wise, is hard to estimate but it is available and some put it to good use.

#### ENCOURAGEMENT TO USERS

Various schemes have been tried over the years to get Masons to read. The Traveling Library was tried several years ago. This was a box of books on various subjects, sent to a lodge Secretary, or some designated brother, who assumed the responsibility of checking out the books to readers and later called them in at the due date, later returning them to the Library.

Interest in this project was never very keen at the lodge level and finally faded out entirely. And it was good that it did. Many books and even boxes of books were lost and had to be recorded as such or "unaccounted for."

Next came the plan of sending out "Book Kits." This was a package of several books on Masonic subjects, but sent on request and eventually this ran its course. This was followed by loaning as many as three books on request, to be retained for three weeks, then renewed or returned. This is used now but we also receive requests for one book at a time.

#### SERVICE AT THE LIBRARY

A word needs to be said about the callers to the Library. Some are Masonic Research people who find here the answers they were able to obtain no where else. The pleasure of serving these devoted clients is almost unbounded.

Among our non-Masonic collections are histories covering the 99 counties of Iowa. These are great sources of information for those (and there are many) who wish to trace their family genealogies. These histories are not for circulation, hence these users return again and again.

#### MUSEUM

This department holds an attraction for many people. It is in two divisions — Masonic and non-Masonic.

Visitors divide themselves into the same two classes pretty much. In the latter group are schools, classes, clubs, and individuals. Items are added to the Museum rather slowly, but even now our two museum rooms are too small to hold all our donations we would like to display.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

The answering of correspondence ranges from light and simple — complying with requests for books, to heavy and detailed — answering a question involving considerable research. The number of individual letters answered (averaging about one and a half per day) doesn't seem like a very big load, but in time consumption it is a different story. Some requests are denied due to time involved in preparing the answers and the individual is encouraged to visit our facilities and do the research as it pleases him.

#### VISITORS

Our visitors, running into the thousands each year, are not only desirous of seeing our building, but in nearly every case they want to learn something about our Library. Since it is a specialized repository, it is unique and most visitors are proud to say they have visited a world-famous landmark of Iowa Masonry.

This abbreviated review of our Library is an attempt to keep pace with periodic reviews that have been written about the Library in the past. The lustre of

Iowa Masonry, through this peerless Masonic Library, has been kept bright, and Masonic knowledge has been continuously spread abroad in the land. The work must go on and the Library must play its part in keeping Masonry alive and vital.



## Chapter XXIX

### CENTENNIAL OF THE GRAND LODGE

The Grand Lodge of Iowa planned for several years the observance of its one hundredth birthday in June, 1944. There were 35 distinguished guests assembled in the Grand Lodge on June 13. Their residences ranged from New York and New Jersey in the East to California in the West and from Ontario and Manitoba in Canada on the North to Louisiana in the South. There were also present representatives from the Grand Bodies of the Scottish Rite and the York Rite in Iowa.

Even with the wartime restrictions on travel, Grand

Master C. D. Jory traveled extensively in Iowa and visited the Grand Lodges of Missouri, Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan, and Nebraska.

The net gain in membership in 1943 was 1,909, and the net membership on January 1, 1944, was 69,444.

The Masonic Service Committee reported the Centennial of the Grand Lodge being celebrated in the lodges.

#### CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE

*While it was long planned that this Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge should fittingly celebrate the 100th anniversary of its organization, the Committee believed the individual lodges should themselves commemorate this centennial, especially since not over ten percent of the membership could be expected to attend Grand Lodge.*

*Accordingly, the Grand Master by Proclamation directed the lodges to assemble for this purpose in their respective halls or Temples on the evening of April 20. The Service Committee prepared and sent out a brief program, furnished publicity, and arranged with four broadcasting stations to carry an address by the Grand Master between 9 and 9:30 o'clock, and secured the exceptionally fine Cedar Rapids Masonic Chorus of twenty voices to sing just prior to and immediately after the Grand Master's address. At the request of the Committee, Brother P. B. Cleaves,*

*P.J.G.W., of Cherokee, prepared an historical sketch of the early days of Masonry in Iowa; this was printed and furnished each lodge to be read as a part of the preliminary program.*

*The broadcast was directly from the lodge room in Cedar Rapids, the three local lodges — Crescent, Mount Hermon, and Mizpah — opening jointly. Reports from all over the state indicate the whole affair to be an outstanding success and worthy of the purpose for which the brethren assembled. In a few instances radio reception was not entirely clear, but generally it was said to be excellent. Three hundred fifty-nine lodges in 328 meetings participated, reporting a combined attendance of 8,460. Weather and road conditions in some sections made it impossible to hold meetings; and it is certain that a great number heard the broadcast in their homes.*

This year, too, the Grand Lodge came into possession of the fascinating conception of the Three Degrees in the form of a three-panel oil painting by Artist Grant Wood. The event was recorded as follows:

#### THE GRANT WOOD PAINTING

*In April of this year the Grand Lodge became the fortunate possessor of a mural painting by Grant Wood, an Iowa artist who, prior to his untimely death two years ago, had gained nation-wide fame. His name is a familiar one to thousands of art lovers, and the prices his paintings bring today would have seemed incredible to him in his early years of poverty and struggle.*

*The subject of this particular painting is "The First Degrees of Freemasonry," and is wholly symbolical. It was done early in his career — about 1921 — at the instance of George L. Schoonover, Grand Master in 1918-19, who has been its owner until its recent transfer. We speak of it in this report for the reason that the Service Committee was in part instrumental in the matter. Brother Realff Ottesen, P.G.M., and the Secretary of the Committee, had known of the painting since its execution, and were in position to negotiate for its purchase; the Chairman of the Committee, Brother B. F. Butler, P.G.T., spoke of the possibility of securing it to Brother Otto A. Schoitz, also of Waterloo, who came to Cedar Rapids, viewed the picture with genuine appreciation, and drew his check for the agreed sum, with the understanding that the ownership should immediately vest in the Grand Lodge upon acceptance by the Trustees.*

*In his letter to the Trustees, Brother Schoitz stipulated as follows: "I request that the Masonic Service Committee be given initial supervision of the painting and of the use thereof, including reframing, exhibiting, locating, and securing and distributing reproductions of such dimensions as the Committee may consider advisable."*

*Brother Schoitz deserves the grateful thanks of his brethren for this proof of his fine and generous spirit.*

*The gift may be seen during this Communication in the Hall of Masonry, and will thereafter be hung in the Iowa Masonic Library. An explanatory pamphlet has been prepared and is available in the Committee's booth downstairs.*

The report of the Committee on the Centennial Observance is an interesting story.

*To the Grand Lodge of Iowa:*

*Your Committee on Centennial Observance — Grand Lodge, 1944, submits the following and final report.*

*This Committee, appointed in 1939 by Grand Master Homer A. Benjamin, was originally composed of Fred G. Hansen, P.G.M., Harry M. Belt, P.G.M., and Realff Ottesen, P.G.M., and was authorized, directed, and empowered to do each and all things necessary to arrange for and provide a program for the Annual Communication in 1944 that would fittingly and properly recognize and observe the Centennial Anniversary of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.*

*Since the creation of this committee in 1939, changes in its personnel have been necessary. Due to the death of Brother Harry M. Belt in 1941, Edward E. Lowe, P.J.G.W., was appointed. On the removal from the state of Brother Lowe in 1942, Brother Glenn C. Barbe was appointed. On the resignation of Brother Realff Ottesen, also in 1942, J. V. Gray, P.J.G.W., was chosen; and on the election of Brother Barbe to the office of*

*Junior Grand Warden in 1943, Nathan L. Hicks, P.S.G.W., was appointed to fill the vacancy. Brothers Gray and Hicks, with your chairman, have performed the duties and functions of the committee in making the final arrangements.*

*The year 1944 marks the completion of one hundred years of active and continuous Masonic service by the Grand Lodge of Iowa. It is fitting that we pause in the regular routine of this annual communication to celebrate our centennial; to honor those hardy pioneers who, notwithstanding the hardships, privations, and struggles incident to frontier life and the settlement of the territory of Iowa, inspired by the lofty ideals of the Masonic Fraternity to which they had pledged allegiance, had the fortitude, courage, and indomitable will to so organize the Grand Lodge of Iowa that Masonry might thrive and prosper and the influence of its principles and idealism be made useful to this growing western country and for the education and enlightenment of its people. To each and all of them, whatever their names and wherever they lived, we today honor and memorialize them, and acknowledge the debt of gratitude due them for their foresight and perseverance and the performance of a duty well and nobly done.*

*When this committee was appointed in 1939, and for several years thereafter, it had visions of a great and somewhat elaborate program for the centennial observ-*

*ance of the birth of this Grand Lodge—a program rich in its simplicity and dignity and in complete harmony with the best traditions and high ideals of the Fraternity and one which would reflect the importance of the occasion.*

*At the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in 1942 in Iowa City, the birthplace of this Grand Lodge, was selected as its place of meeting in 1944. The brethren of Iowa City Lodge No. 4 had long cherished the hope that the centennial of the Grand Lodge of Iowa might be observed in their city. It was with great joy and happiness that they learned that plans were being made by which their hopes were soon to be realized. Even then the treacherous Japs had perpetrated their foul attack on Pearl Harbor and our country was at war. Your committee, and the brethren of Iowa City, were apprehensive and wondered what 1944 had in store for them. Recognizing not only the need but the great desire of Masonry, and all true Masons everywhere, to lend all its strength and influence to the successful prosecution of the war in which we were engaged, your committee proceeded with due caution, realizing that the postponement, and even abandonment, of the centennial observance might be necessary. It was conceivable, too, that such events might, before the time arrived, be proscribed by our government in the interest of the war effort.*

*That we were not denied the privilege of assembly this year is a source of much joy and satisfaction to this committee. But the limitations and difficulties imposed upon us as the war progressed were many. Some were surmounted and overcome, but many necessitated the revision of plans already made and, in some instances, their complete abandonment. Foreseeing the possibility that a change in the meeting place of the Grand Lodge in 1944 might become necessary, the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication in 1943 authorized the incoming Grand Master with this committee to change the place of meeting in 1944, as previously designated, should occasion require.*

*At the meeting of this committee in Cedar Rapids on January 29, 1944, we learned with extreme regret that Iowa City Lodge No. 4 and the brethren of Iowa City had found it would be absolutely impossible for them to be hosts to the Grand Lodge this year. The United States Navy, having previously located an air training station at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, had found it necessary to take over many of the facilities of Iowa City which were to have been made available to the Grand Lodge and without which our meeting in Iowa City would be impossible. We realized that the hopes of our brethren in Iowa City had been shattered by these unexpected changes and by circumstances beyond their control. Your committee, too, was keenly*

*disappointed, as were, we believe, many brethren throughout the jurisdiction. However, we commend the Masons of Iowa City for having withdrawn their invitation rather than attempt to entertain the Grand Lodge under most adverse conditions. We trust that at some later date the Grand Lodge may enjoy the privilege of meeting in Iowa City, its birthplace.*

*Upon learning that Iowa City through force of circumstances had been compelled to withdraw its invitation to the Grand Lodge to meet there, the brethren of Cedar Rapids graciously and cordially invited the Grand Lodge to hold its centennial in their city. This invitation was immediately accepted by your Grand Master and this committee, and the labors of the committee proceeded.*

*The centennial observance of the organization of a great and noble order of free men is an occasion of great significance and importance, at which the presence of men distinguished by honorable and meritorious service in like organizations throughout the world is earnestly desired. Your committee, therefore, had beautifully engraved invitations prepared, each properly engrossed, and mailed to the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary of all the Grand Jurisdictions in the United States, Canada, the British Isles, Australasia, and all recognized Grand Lodges in Mexico, Central and South America, and to many other distinguished Masons*

*throughout the world. We requested their presence and the presence of their ladies as our guests at our centennial observance.*

\* \* \*

*Consideration of the program and other features in connection with our centennial observance became a task much more difficult than had been anticipated. The growing demands and requirements of the armed forces of the United States, the food and gasoline rationing program adopted by our government, and the restrictions urged against unnecessary travel, all were subjects of great concern to this committee. Manpower and the shortage of civilian merchandise also had to be taken into consideration, and as a result many plans that had been tentatively adopted had to be revised or abandoned.*

*Your committee had hoped to provide for distribution among the representatives and visitors attending this communication a souvenir, handsomely designed, which would be prized for many years as a memorial of this centennial event. Due to the fact that materials necessary for their manufacture were critical to the war needs and therefore unobtainable, we found it necessary to dispense with such a souvenir. Your committee did, however, provide a concise memorial history of the organization of the Grand Lodge, a copy of which was presented to all registrants. Other copies will be for-*

*warded such Masons as may desire a copy and be entitled thereto. For the preparation of the memorial history we are indebted to Brothers Ernest R. Moore, P.G.M., Charles C. Hunt, Grand Secretary, and Earl B. Delzell, Deputy Grand Secretary. To each of them we offer our thanks and appreciation.*

*The place of meeting of this Annual Communication, the auditorium in the Memorial Coliseum, was engaged by your committee that ample room might be available for the brethren and for the requirements of Grand Lodge. This spacious building affords a delightful meeting place, and for its use we are very thankful.*

*Your committee realized that the Grand Lodge of Iowa would, at its centennial anniversary, be honored by the presence of many distinguished Masons and their ladies. It was highly desirable that our guests have opportunity to meet and fraternize with the official and active personnel of our Grand Lodge that they might become the better acquainted with Iowa and Iowa Masonry. Your committee, therefore, provided as one of the delightful events on its program a banquet, held Monday evening preceding the opening of Grand Lodge, at the Cedar Rapids Country Club. Invitations were extended to our distinguished visitors, the officers, committeemen, and all permanent members of the Grand Lodge of Iowa and their ladies.*

*Through the courtesy of our brethren of Cedar*

*Rapids, automobiles were provided to convey all guests to and from the Country Club. Rationing of gasoline made the task somewhat difficult, but the assignment was accomplished with much credit due the brethren of our host city.*

*The large banquet hall of the club, beautiful and complete in its appointments, had been prepared with thoughtful skill and care. Tables were perfectly arranged and decorated with red roses and ivy. Crystal ornaments and candelabra enhanced the beauty of the setting.*

\* \* \*

#### PROGRAM

*Grand Master Clifford D. Jory, Presiding*  
*Solo . . . . . Mr. Norman Emerson*  
*Greetings from Masonic Ancestors*  
*Grand Lodge of North Carolina . . . . .*  
*. . . . . J. Edward Allen, P.G.M.*  
*Grand Lodge of Tennessee . . . . . A Message*  
*Grand Lodge of Missouri . . . . .*  
*. . . . . William F. Woodruff, Grand Master*  
*Greetings from Masonic Posterity*  
*Grand Lodge of North Dakota . . . . .*  
*. . . . . Reinhart Gilbertsen, Grand Master*  
*Grand Lodge of South Dakota . . . . .*  
*. . . . . Herman Chapman P.G.M.*

*Duet . . . . . Mrs. T. Hubert DeWees  
and Mr. Norman Emerson*  
*Address . . . . . E. G. Williams, Past Grand Chaplain*

*In preparing the program for this occasion, your committee desired to afford opportunity to representatives of our ancestral and descendant Grand Lodges to address the Masons of Iowa, their invited guests, and ladies on this our one hundredth birthday. The response was most gratifying and we listened with pride to tributes complimenting the Grand Lodge of Iowa and Iowa Masonry for its splendid accomplishments and progress.*

*To complete our speaking program and in order to present to our many visitors Iowa's concept of Masonry, its purposes and objectives, your committee invited Brother E. G. Williams of Los Angeles, California, Past Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, to deliver the principal address of the evening. Gifted in the art of public speaking, his address was masterful in its conception and presentation and was most enthusiastically received. It was a gem of literary perfection, and Brother Williams was highly complimented by his distinguished audience. To Brother Williams we extend the thanks of an appreciative and grateful committee.*

*Following the selection of Iowa City, in 1942, as the meeting place for our centennial observance, your committee invited the brethren of Iowa City Lodge No. 4*

*to prepare a pageant or dramatization of the early history of Masonry in Iowa and the formation of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. This invitation was accepted. Notwithstanding the fact that a change in meeting place became necessary, the good brethren of Iowa City Lodge graciously consented to complete their preparations of such a dramatization and present it for the enjoyment and enlightenment of the brethren attending our annual communication. Your committee designated Tuesday evening, June 13, 1944, as the time, and the Scottish Rite Temple, Cedar Rapids, as the place for its presentation.*

*"The Builders," a centennial play honoring Iowa Masonry, was written and directed by Brother Marcus Bach, Professor in the School of Religion at the State University of Iowa. The story centers around two characters that were important in early Iowa Masonic history — Brothers William Reynolds and James R. Hartsock, during which time the Iowa City of 1844 served as the locale.*

*This play was received with great interest. Well prepared and arranged and dramatically presented, it afforded an evening of intellectual interest and enjoyment.*

\* \* \*

*Your committee is deeply indebted to Brother Marcus Bach and all those who assisted in the production and*

*presentation of "The Builders," and to them we extend our thanks and grateful appreciation.*

*Since that time back in 1939 when this committee was first conceived and appointed, it was the earnest desire of the committee that one event be included in the program that would be outstanding and long remain in memory as the feature event in the entertainment of the brethren attending the centennial anniversary. We had envisioned a sumptuous banquet attended by all the officers, representatives, and permanent members of the Grand Lodge, and the distinguished Masons favoring us with their presence. Speakers of renown were to be invited and a diversified program of music and entertainment provided. The demands of war, the resulting rationing programs, and the manpower situation all contrived to defeat our plans, and our cherished hopes were frustrated.*

*Your committee, however, engaged the Iowa Theatre for the evening of June 14 and invited all Master Masons and their ladies to be the guests of the Grand Lodge of Iowa and enjoy a program of high class entertainment which had been provided. A theater filled to capacity greeted the performers, and all present spent a most enjoyable and pleasant evening.*

*Your committee was delighted by the presence of the large number of ladies visiting Cedar Rapids during the days of our communication. That they might be prop-*

*erly received and welcomed we enlisted the assistance of the ladies of the Eastern Star and to them assigned the pleasant task of entertaining our lady guests. Lunches and entertainment were provided, and our visiting ladies were profuse in their expressions of thanks and appreciation for the many courtesies shown them. We were happy to have had them with us and trust they will soon visit us again. To Mrs. Gertrude Anderson, Worthy Matron of Malta Chapter, and Mrs. Sarah Ainsworth, Worthy Matron of Cedar Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, and to the ladies of the local chapters of the Eastern Star who assisted so graciously we extend our thanks for assuming a task not easily performed by your committee.*

*Heretofore the Grand Lodge has made funds available to this committee with which to defray the expense of the centennial observance. It is the opinion of this committee that additional funds will be required to fully discharge financial obligations incurred. We therefore request and recommend that a further appropriation of \$3,000 be made and that any unexpended funds be returned to the General Fund.*

#### WHAT DID IT COST?

Over a period of five years, 1941-44, the Grand Lodge appropriated \$10,500 with which to observe this historic event in the history of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

The records reveal expenditures were as follows;

Committee Meetings .....	\$ 198.22
Invitations and Announcements .....	558.45
Souvenir History .....	1,898.02
Badges .....	418.48
Hall of Masonry .....	337.19
Entertainment of Guests .....	3,585.63
Miscellaneous Items .....	537.19
	<hr/>
	\$7,533.18



## Chapter XXX

### EPILOGUE

My wish for Iowa Masonry relative to this brief History is that its members read it for just what it is — a record of Grand Masters and some events arbitrarily selected that have affected the course of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction during the years 1939 to 1969. Any one of you readers might have selected other events, but we would have to agree on the Grand Masters mentioned.

In 1965, Grand Master Dorsey Andrews reviewed my qualifications for writing this History. I did pos-

sess a Masonic heritage. My father was a member for 15 years before I became a member and he was privileged to enjoy Masonic fellowship for another ten years before his untimely death at age 60.

I was raised in Mound City Lodge No. 294 at Mound City, Missouri, March 3, 1925. On October 9, 1934, I demitted from there to affiliate with Hannibal Lodge No. 188 at Hannibal, Missouri, and served that lodge as Senior Deacon and Junior Warden in 1936 and 1937, respectively. Since I was in school work, change of residence was somewhat frequent and in 1944 I came to Iowa. On January 15, 1948, I affiliated with Warren Lodge No. 53 at Indianola. On February 1, 1950, I joined the staff at the Grand Lodge Office and demitted to Mount Hermon Lodge No. 263 at Cedar Rapids on September 11, 1950, serving that lodge as Master in 1958.

To start the Grand Lodge year of 1953-54, Grand Secretary Delzell named me as Deputy Grand Secretary. On May 28, 1959, Brother Delzell chose to take his retirement and Grand Master C. Dale Cox appointed me Grand Secretary to fill the unexpired term. I was regularly elected in September, 1959, and have appreciated the ten succeeding elections. My plan is to retire on February 28, 1970.

Over the 20 years of my employment in the Grand Secretary's Office, I have been closely associated with

21 Grand Masters — full terms of 19 and partial terms of two.

During these 20 years the membership has gone from 89,658 on January 1, 1950, to a high of 95,155 on January 1, 1957, then in the next dozen years it skidded to a loss of over 10,000 members.

This has been a most rewarding work and the most gratifying compensation is the friends we have made. Masonry has been a profound inspiration to me, and like its effect on many others, I'm a better man for my Masonic experience. My sincere utterance, in exultation to all, is that any Mason just can't live long enough to repay the Masonic Fraternity for what it has done for him, either directly or indirectly.

RALPH E. WHIPPLE